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acts of the A.M.S.H.
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A.M.S.H. stands are fundamental and
ude Equality, Justice, Liberty with
ality, and the upholding of a single
n matters relating to sex behaviour.

main aims of the A.M.S.H. are :—

sed prostitution and kindred evils,

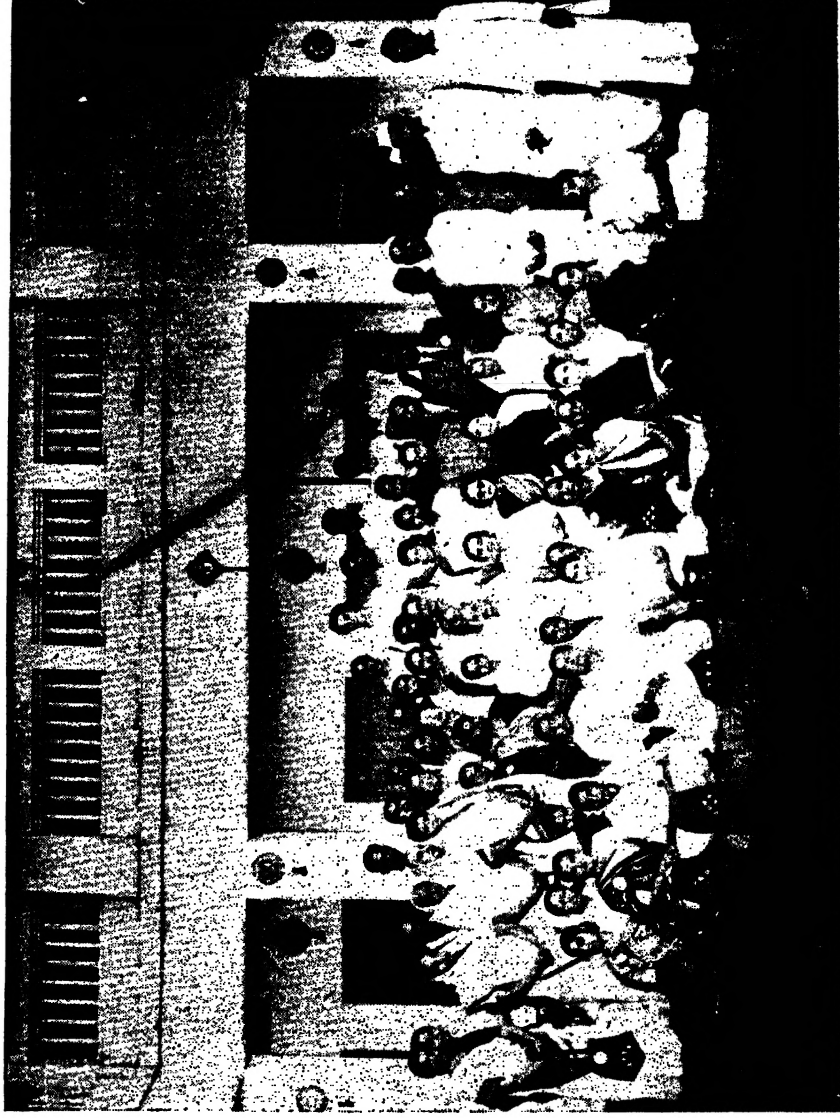
(1) The securing or continuation of all forms of State Regulation and

(3) The raising of the standard of character and conduct in sexual
relations, thus upholding the highest family traditions and ensuring
a recognition that national life must be based upon a wholesome
family life.

The aims are sought to be achieved by :

- (1) Studying and promoting such legislative, administrative, social,
educational and hygienic reforms as will tend to encourage the high-
est public and private morality, and to give adequate protection to
women and children ;
- (2) Arousing public conscience and public opinion ;
- (3) Educating through schools, colleges, and religious foundations, films,
lantern, lectures and other visual educational methods ;
- (4) Studying conditions of life for women and children in labour areas,
in brothel areas, in entertainment troupes, and other such work or
professions with a view to protect them from exploitation and im-
moral traffic ; and
- (5) Taking steps to prevent the publication, display, or sale of undesir-
able books, pictures, papers, or the showing of obscene dramas, films,
plays etc.

6th All-India Moral & Social Hygiene Conference
held at Ahmedabad 1957
DELEGATES



Programme for the 6th All-India Conference on Moral & Social Hygiene.

AHMEDABAD, 31st Jan.; 1st & 2nd Feb. 1958.

31st January 1958 :

8-30 to 9-30 A.M.—Breakfast

10-00 to 1-00 P.M.—Registration of Delegates & Observers.

1-00 to 2-30 P.M.—Lunch

INAUGURAL SESSION :

3-30 to 5-00 P.M.—Welcome song by Andh Girls Vidyalaya.

Messages to the Conference read by Shri Pannalal Jhaveri.

Address of Welcome by the Chairman Reception Committee Shri Raojibhai Manibhai Patel.

Request to the Governor to inaugurate the Conference by the President of the Association Dr. Sushila Nayar.

Inaugural Address by His Excellency the Rt. Hon'ble Shri Sri Prakasa, the Governor of Bombay.

Hony. General Secretary's report by Mrs. Shakuntla Lall.

Address by Mrs. Violet Alva, President of the Conference.

Vote of thanks by Shri Prabhudas B. Patwari.

National Anthem by Andh Girls Vidyalaya.

5-15 to 6-30 P.M.—Reception by the Governor Shri Sri Prakasa Ji.

7-00 to 8-00 P.M.—Dinner.

8-30 to 10-30 P.M.—Cultural programme by Mrs. Mrenalini Sarabhai and Vikas Vidyalaya & other ladies Organisation.

1st February 1958

BUSINESS SESSION :

9-00 to 1-00 P.M.—Symposium on the present position of the problem of prostitution :—

1. Dr. Sushila Nayar, President A.M.S.H.I.
2. Dr. Ratnamma Isaac from Mysore.
3. Mr. Pooran Chand Advocate from Agra.
4. Mrs. M. Sundaram from Calcutta.
5. Dr. Mrs. Camilla Da Costa from Bombay.

1-00 to 2-00 P.M.—Lunch.

2-00 to 3-30 P.M.—1. Meeting of the Resolutions Drafting Committee.

2. Visit to Institutions.

BUSINESS SESSION :

3-30 to 7-00 P.M.—General Aspects by :—

1. Smt. Pushpavati Mehta.
2. Dr. Anklesaria.

Programme of A.M.S.H.I.

Educational Aspect :

- I 1. Dr. Mrs. D.D. Chacko.
2. Mrs. M.M. Desai.

Discussion.

Health Aspect :

- II 1. Dr. W. Mathur.
2. Mr. J. P. Gupta.

Discussion.

Legal Aspects :

- III 1 Mr. K. Shanker Nigam.
- 2 Mr. Prabhudas B. Patwari.

Discussion.

7-00 to 8-00 P.M.—President's concluding remarks.

7-00 to 8-00 P.M.—Film Show.

8-00 to 9-00 P.M.—Dinner.

2nd February 1958

9-00 to 1-00 P.M.—BUSINESS SESSION :

Report from the branches of A.M.S.H.I.

Final Recommendations & Resolutions.

President's concluding remarks.

Vote of thanks.

1-00 to 2-00 P.M. -Lunch.

2-00 to 2-30 P.M.—Press Conference.

3-00 to 6-00 P.M.—Sight Seeing.

Messages to the Conference.

1 *Dr. Rajendra Prasad.*

For the growth of a healthy and decorous society it is essential that the programme of the eradication of social evils like prostitution is carried out vigorously and systematically. Freedom from such evils is as great a desideratum for a happy life as material prosperity. I am glad that the Association for Moral & Social Hygiene in India has been doing this commendable work for the last few years. I send my best wishes to it on the occasion of its 6th All-India Conference.

2 *S. Radhakrishnan.*

I am glad to know that the 6th All-India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene will be held in Ahmedabad. Hygiene should not be confined merely to physical hygiene ; it must cover other aspects also. Your Association is doing important work and I wish it success.

3 *Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru.*

I send my good wishes to the All-India Conference of Moral & Social Hygiene. I hope that the work being done by the Association for this purpose will be helped. I hope also that the method of approach will be a human one and not too official. Nothing requires the human approach more than the problems with which this Association deals.

4 *Shri Gobind Ballabh Pant.*

I am glad that the Association for Moral & Social Hygiene in India is organising its annual All-India Conference which would be the Sixth in the series at Ahmedabad. The Association, as I observed on the last occasion also, has taken upon itself a very onerous task of eradicating social evils from our midst. This work has assumed greater importance

in this modern age of science when man's control over nature, time and space opens out prospects of unlimited material progress for if our moral fabric does not keep pace with such advance, human society will run the risk of degeneration and be shorn of those great ethical values which constitute the cornerstone of civilisation. In our own country, we have since the advent of Independance embarked upon a programme of reconstruction and development by which we seek to raise the standards of our people. These efforts need to be matched with a corresponding campaign for maintaining the purity of the mind and adherence to moral principles which alone can entitle a man to be counted as a worthy citizen and as a healthy unit of society. The Association has during the short period of its existence played a notable part in this direction, and I trust that the deliberations of the forthcoming Conference will give a further fillip to its future activities. I send my best wishes for the success of the Conference.

5 *Smt. Rameshwari Nehru.*

I am very sorry for not being able to attend the 6th All-India Annual Conference of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. Unfortunately, my health since recently has not been too good and because of this physical disability, I am unable to travel long distances. I hope the office bearers of the Association and the delegates will be good enough to forgive my absence. I can assure them that in spirit I shall be present with them as my heart is in it and I know the importance and need of this great work. I am glad that the conscience of the Indian people is comparatively more awakened now and that we have been able to over-come their apathy to some extent. Thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Social Welfare Board on whose initiation some practical work has already been taken in hand and a few shelters and Homes for rescued women and those in moral danger have been started. It will help but the great fact remains that social evils like prostitution cannot be remedied by Government alone. "It is mainly the people's task and unless men and women in their masses do not sufficiently realise the vast extent of harm done to Society by this evil practice and its manifold ugly consequences, not much headway can be made. It is the citizens of the country who have to rise as crusaders to fight against this evil. Women have to lead this brigade of crusaders as it is their sex which is humiliated and exploited." No woman is really free as long as those despised and neglected women, the victims of social circumstances are in bondage. It is our duty therefore, as mothers to raise our strong voice against this man headed serpent which is poisoning the very vitals of our society. We may not rest till we turn this serpent to a lifeless corpse. During the course of your deliberations in the next two days I hope, a programme for the next year will be drawn out embodying some practical but dynamic measures for carrying out an effective war against this evil. The work is difficult but the greatest of difficulties melt away before a living determination. I have no doubt that the work of this Conference will bear excellent results.

6 *Rajkumari Amritkaur.*

My best wishes for the success of the Sixth All-India Conference on Moral & Social Hygiene. It is the bounden duty of all of us, and in particular of women, to try to eradicate from society what is a real evil. I have a feeling that the Association should undertake very much more public education, not so much by way of large gatherings as by talking to young people in groups.

7 *Smt. Indira Gandhi.*

All social problems are inter-related. It is, therefore, essential to have a realistic view of the whole situation and a thorough understanding of the many factors which are responsible for the creation of these problems, before we embark on the solution of any one of them. It is equally important to have a human approach.

During my recent visit to Japan I was very interested in their anti-prostitution bill and the practical way in which they were dealing with the problem step by step. They realized that no amount of theorizing or propaganda could take the place of providing acceptable training and employment as an alternate way of life.

I send my best wishes to the Association for the continuation and intensification of their good work. I hope their 6th All-India Conference will be a success.

8 *Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri.*

You are engaged in a noble work. How I wish we could copy the best of the West and yet try to maintain that is good in the East. Any service that is rendered on these lines would be of immense help to us. I have faith in your leadership and wish your Conference all success.

9 *Shri Gulzari Lal Nanda.*

The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India has been a pioneer in its field and has an excellent record of many years' good work and I am glad to have another opportunity of expressing my sincere appreciation of their work and wishes their Sixth All-India Conference all success."

10 *Shri T.T. Krishnamachari.*

The Evils that beset this country which this Conference will be dealing with do need

immediate and continuous attention. Besides, we have to break through a wall prejudice and prudery in order to make any appreciable impact on these evils. I do hope the Conference will be able to take a step forward in this direction.

Wishing the Conference all success.

11 Shri D. P. Karmarkar.

The problems with which the Conference will deal like the eradication of social evils like prostitution, control of venereal diseases, sex education etc., are very important from the point of view of moral and social hygiene. I am sure that the deliberations of the Conference will give good guidance in this matter. I wish the Conference all success.

12 Shri S.K. Patil.

The Association has been working for the eradication of social evils like prostitution, etc. I wish the Association every success in its mission of mercy. I also send my good wishes for the success of the Conference.

13 Shri K.C. Reddy.

I am sure the deliberations of the Conference will help us to progress in moral and social hygiene. I wish the Conference all success.

14 Sh. P.V. Rajamannar.

Governor of Madras.

Adequate attention is still not being paid in this country to the problem of moral and social hygiene the importance of which cannot be minimised in the building up of a healthy and strong nation. I hope that the Conference will deal realistically with the several matters covered by the object of the Conference and suggest concrete practical ways in which social evils could be minimised, if not eradicated. I wish the Conference all success.

15 S. Gurmukh Nihal Singh.

Governor Rajasthan.

The Association for Moral & Social Hygiene in India has done laudable pioneer work in organizing an all out campaign against commercialized vice, and in the suppression of traffic

in women and minor children. In this connection it is necessary to constitute in various states special police squads for preventive and vigilance work, and devise more effective steps to extend and fully implement the existing Acts.

In all advanced countries a course of social hygiene is included at school and college levels so that the youth are equipped with scientific information on sex and develop a proper sense of social values. We also want an enthusiastic band of devoted social workers and voluntary welfare organisations which with the aid of the State can run clinics for delinquent-children, Rescue Home for Girls and prophylactic Services for all.

The vigour of civilized societies is preserved by the widespread sense that high aims are worthwhile. It will be for your Association to propagate that sense and mobilize public opinion for eradicating evils that infest our social order and sap its strength. My good wishes are with you in this task of national importance.

15 *Shri C.P.N. Singh.*
Governor of Punjab.

The Sixth All India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene to be held at Ahmedabad has all my good wishes. The social evils which this Association strives to eradicate are eating into the very vitals of our Society and lead to all types of degeneration : physical, mental and spiritual. I wish the Association all success in its effort to root them out and wish there were more people and institutions to help it in this task.

17 *Shri Bhimsen Sachar.*
Governor of Andhra Pradesh.

The problem of eradication of all kinds of social evils like prostitution etc., is a vital one demanding urgent solution. The all-round development of the country envisages a planned development of not only the material welfare of the people but also the development of their moral welfare. I am sure that this Conference will tackle this important and complex problem in all its various manifestations and evolve a workable programme of work for the eradication of social evils which could be effectively implemented. I wish the Conference all success.

18 *Miss Padmaja Naidu.*
Governor of West Bengal.

The problem of prostitution and commercialised vice with all its associated evils offers

a vast challenge to the conscience of society. Their total eradication is of paramount necessity for maintaining the higher moral values of the people and ensuring the healthy growth of our nation. I have no doubt that the deliberations of the Conference will contribute a large measure towards formulating means and method of tackling the problem and moulding public opinion to co-operate in combating the evil.

19 *Shri V.V. Giri.*

Governor of U.P.

Who does not know what amount of work there is to do in the field of moral and social hygiene in India? Your Association deserves congratulations on what it is trying to do in tackling this difficult work. As a result of your sustained efforts I hope the conscience of the public will be roused against moral and social evils and opinion mobilised in favour of their eradication.

I wish the Conference every success.

20 *S. Fazl Ali.*

Governor of Assam.

I am happy to have this occasion of tendering my best wishes for the success of the 6th All-India Conference of social and Moral Hygiene proposed to be held at Ahmedabad early next month.

It is a matter of great satisfaction to me that the Association continues to strive for the eradication of social evils and is making efforts towards the salvaging of lives from degeneration and shame.

With in the limitation of miserable social conditions and due to the operation of in-excrable economic forces, the workers of the Association need all the courage, resource, compassion and understanding which they can possibly muster.

May this conference succeed in imbuing them with fresh zeal to tackle the formidable human problems which confront them.

21 *Sh. B. Ramakrishna Rao.*

Governor of Kerala.

Controlling social evils and educating the people on the essentials of social hygiene are high priority duties on the part of a responsible community and any constructive endeavour

in this regard deserves the whole hearted support of all people.

I send my best wishes for the success of the Conference.

22 Shri H.V. Pataskar.

Governor of Madhya Pradesh.

The largest single backward group of Indians are women and they are subjected to many social and economic disabilities. They are the principal victims of social evils like prostitution and venereal diseases. These evils no doubt inflict suffering on men also, but in their case, the suffering is generally self-inflicted : In the case of women, their social and economic conditions are mainly responsible for their suffering. All the same, these are scourges that inflict misery on both men and women which could be avoided by suitable measures, both short term and long-term. Your Association is doing good work in this cause and I wish your Conference all success.

23 Sh. Y. N. Sukthankar.

Governor of Orissa.

I trust the deliberations of this Conference will result in the public conscience being adequately roused to a proper understanding of the various aspects of this grave problem and would go a long way in enlisting universal public co-operation.

24 Sh. Bakhshi Gulam Mohammed.

Chief Minister, J. & K.

One can hardly over-emphasize the need for greater efforts for the eradication of social evils from our national life. This is indeed a noble mission of selfless dedication and I hope that this Conference will concretely suggest measures for effective organisation of this work.

25 Sh. Y. B. Chavan.

Chief Minister of Bombay.

I am fully aware of the fact that sufficient work has not been done in this field and I appreciate the efforts made by the Association in this direction. Eradication of social evils, particularly prostitution, suppression of traffic in women and children deserve top-most priority. No legislation can help to solve the problem unless the public mind is educated. I am confident that the deliberations of this conference will go a long way in this direction.

I also feel that practically no attention has been paid to sex education which has become so important. I hope that the conference will lay due emphasis on this and devise ways and means to educate the people on the subject.

I wish the conference all success.

26 *Dr Sampurnanand.*
Chief Minister of U.P.

The work of moral and social hygiene is both difficult and important, particularly at a time when old traditions and social customs are losing hold on the minds of the people in an age of rapid scientific advance and new social ideologies. What is required here is not so much the preaching of morality as the creation of a social awareness of its necessity for a good society. Only non-official organizations can do this and their efforts need all encouragement and sympathy. I hope the Conference will devise methods to enlist support for its campaign from as large a number of people as possible. I wish them success in their objective.

27 *Sh. Mohanlal Sukhadia.*
Chief Minister of Rajasthan.

The all-round progress of the nations is not possible unless we succeed in wiping out completely the social evils that exist in the present day social set up. We have not only to go into the root of such evils but have also to find out the remedies so that we can tackle them in a planned way. India has started on its career as a great industrialised nation. It becomes all the more necessary that we pay heed to the evils that beset an industrial society at the very out-set. Evils like prostitution, venereal diseases etc., require the creation of an enlightened public opinion, apart from the provision of institutional and medical methods to deal with such evils. The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene has done commendable work in this field by focussing public attention on the gravity of these social evils, and this is important as with understanding action becomes easy and effective.

I wish the deliberations of the Conference all success.

28 *Sh. N. Sanjiva Reddy.*
Chief Minister Andhra Pradesh.

It is a formidable undertaking to educate the people in Moral and Social Hygiene and to eradicate several social evils from the society. There are very few organisations in

this country to take up this stupendous work. I hope the deliberation of this Conference will result in extending the scope and spread of moral and social hygiene in greater measure than ever before. I wish the Conference all success.

29 *Sh. B C. Roy.*

Chief Minister of West Bengal

There are social evils like prostitution and traffic in women which call for urgent solution. There are also problems such as the control of venereal diseases. These cannot be tackled by legislation alone, but enlightened public opinion has to be built up. I hope that the 6th All-India Conference on Moral & Social Hygiene to be held at Ahmedabad will be able to put forth constructive suggestions in this regard.

30 *Dr. Kailash Nath Katju.*

Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.

It is needless to say that the problems which the Association is tackling are of vital importance to the national welfare. I am sure that the deliberations of the conference will be conducive to promotion of social welfare. I wish the Conference every success,

31 *E.M.S. Namboodiripad.*

Chief Minister of Kerala.

Being not acquainted with the activities of the Association, I am afraid, I would not be able to give you any message that will be useful to you. But I suppose the good wishes of a layman, who feels intensely for the thousands of men and women who are suffering from the evils which you are fighting, will also strengthen you in your good work. I am very happy to send you such good wishes.

32 *S. Partap Singh Karon.*

Chief Minister of Punjab.

I congratulate the organisers and workers of the Association for Moral & Social Hygiene in India for their noble endeavour to eradicate social evils from among our people and provide healthful education to them.

One of the surest indexes of the moral well-being of a community is the health of that community. But the picture of physical health of our society is not so sound or encouraging which shows that something is seriously wrong somewhere and is, therefore, sapping our strength. The malady is so complex that its diagnosis and remedy require

action on the part of the Govt. the people and their voluntary organisations like this Association at several levels and in different measures. In fact each one of us should bear a just share of the burden and should extend full co-operation, intellectual, physical, the victims of vice and saving millions of our sons and daughters from falling:

The task is uphill. It is the flame of spirited devotion that can secure success for the mission. May the Association's next Conference become a beginning of a nation-wide crusade in this connection.

33 K. Kamaraj.

Chief Minister Madras.

Such conferences indeed serve as powerful agencies to stimulate the formation of a strong public opinion which is so very essential to curb social evils, the worst of which is prostitution. The growth and consolidation of such public opinion will not only impart necessary drive and impetus to the Govt. programmes for eradicating these evils but also give a fillip to the efforts of voluntary organisations to rescue the victims of these evils. The great and noble work of the Association in eradicating these social evils and its efforts to help reclamation, rehabilitation and after care of the victims will be remembered in the days to come. I congratulate the social workers engaged in this noble and sacred task.

34 Shri Atmaram Raoji Bhat.

Shri Atmaram Raoji Bhat thanks the Reception Committee of the Sixth All-India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene to be held under the presidentship of Smt. Violet Alva, Deputy Home-minister, Government of India for the kind invitation to be present on the occasion of the inauguration of the conference by Shri Sriprakasa, Governor of Bombay, on the 31st of January 1958 at 3.30 p.m. at Ahmedabad, but regrets his inability to attend the same due to illness. He wishes the function every success.

35 Y.W.C.A.

"The Young Women's Christian Association of India sends greetings and best wishes for a successful conference of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India. Since we are also keenly interested in the welfare of the women and young girls of our country. We are the more happy to assure you of our heartiest cooperation in the splendid work your association is doing.

36 Smt Saraladevi Sarabhai.

President, N.C.W.I.

On behalf of the National Council of Women in India I send hearty greetings and best wishes for the success of the Sixth All-India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene.

There is no gainsaying the fact that the growth of healthy family life and social virtues depends on the tone of moral and hygienic values of our society. More than anything else this should be the criterion to adjudge the greatness of our nation.

To make the best of the equal status and freedom that the Indian Constitution has granted to women, it should be the duty not only of the social worker but of every citizen to see that woman and children are protected by every means from the unscrupulous exploitation of anti-social elements.

I am sure the deliberations of the Conference and the ancillary exhibition will help to rouse our social conscience against the evils to which our women are exposed, for they can not grow to their full stature unless these evils are eradicated from the society.

I again wish the Conference every success.

स्वागत भाषण

श्री रावजीभाई मणिभाई पटेल ।

भारतवर्ष की इस प्राचीन एवम् आधुनिक नगरी में, अखिल भारतीय नैतिक एवम् सामाजिक स्वास्थ्य संघ के छठे अधिवेशन के उपलक्ष्य में जो लोग यहाँ एकत्रित हुए हैं उन सब का हार्दिक स्वागत करते हुए मुझे बड़ी प्रसन्नता हो रही है। बम्बई के राज्यपाल श्री. श्रीप्रकाशजी ने इस अधिवेशन का उद्घाटन करने के लिए दिये गये हमारे आमन्त्रण का कृपापूर्वक स्वीकार किया और आप यहाँ पधारे यह सचमुच ही हमारे लिए बड़े सौभाग्य की बात है। हमारे लिए यह भी बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि, गिरी हुई मानवता को ऊँचे उठाने के लिए अनुकूल साधन एवम् मार्ग ढूँढने के हेतु आज यहाँ अनेक प्रतिष्ठित प्रतिनिधि महानुभाव तथा अन्य निरीक्षक एकत्रित हुए हैं।

अहमदाबादने अनेक विचारों और अनेक गतिशील प्रवृत्तियों को उत्साह एवम् प्रेरणा दी है। यह एक ऐसी भूमि है जहाँ पू. महात्मा गाँधीजी की स्मृति हमेशा के लिए संप्रहित हुई है। यहीं से उन का सत्य और अहिंसा का सन्देश सारे संसार में फैला है।

देशके कपड़े के बुनाई उद्योग के विकास में इस शहर ने बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण काम किया है। कुछ शतक पहले अहमदाबाद में सोने और रुपये के तारों की बुनाई का कलात्मक काम होता था और यहाँ का माल दुनिया के विभिन्न भागों में पहुंचता था। आज यहाँ के मजूर महाजन (Textile Labour Association) के अच्छे सहकार द्वारा यहाँ के उद्योग तथा श्रमिकों ने उत्पादन तथा सुचारु औद्योगिक सम्बन्धों के क्षेत्र में अपना अद्वितीय इतिहास कायम किया है।

ऐतिहासिक दृष्टिसे भी अहमदाबाद एक महत्त्वपूर्ण शहर है। यहाँ कलात्मक शिल्पकाम के अनेक सुन्दरतम स्थापत्य हैं। सोलहवीं शताब्दी के अन्तकाल के वर्षों में यह “भारतवर्ष की सुन्दरतम व महान” नगरी मानी जाती थी। हमने जो अलग ‘परिचय पत्रिका’ (Souvenir) से प्रकाशित की है वह आप सब को इस शहर की विभिन्न विशेषताओं का विहंगावलोकन करायेगी। और मैं आशा करता हूँ कि आप सब को यहां के स्थानों को देखकर बहुत ही आनन्द होगा।

शिक्षा, संस्कृति व साहित्य के क्षेत्र में इस शहरने ख्याति प्राप्त की है। पृ. महात्मा गांधीजी द्वारा संस्थापित गुजरात विद्यापीठ और गुजरात युनिवर्सिटी अपने निश्चित शिक्षाविषयक कार्य से देश भर में मशहूर हैं।

सामाजिक सेवा से संबंधित प्रवृत्तियों में भी इस शहर का उज्ज्वल इतिहास रहा है। कई साल पूर्व से हमारे यहाँ महिपतराम रूपराम अनाथाश्रम और बहरों तथा गूंगोंका स्कूल मौजूद है। सन् १९३२ ईस्वी. की सत्याग्रह की हलचल के पश्चात ज्योतिसंघ और विकास गृह जैसी सक्रिय एवम् जागृत संस्थाएँ कायम हुई। इन संस्थाओं ने सामाजिक कार्य के लिए सशक्त आन्दोलन जगाया। सभी प्रतिनिधियों से मेरी प्रार्थना है कि वे स्वयम् जाकर कस्तूरबा विद्यालय, कोबा, हरिजन आश्रम, अंध कन्या प्रकाश गृह, निर्वासित नारी केन्द्र, इत्यादि के साथ इन समाज सेवा मंदिरों के दर्शन करें।

पिछले दशक में गुजरात और सौराष्ट्र में सामाजिक सेवा में काम को बहुत ही प्रेरणा व बल मिला है नई २ सामाजिक संस्थाएँ सामाजिक सेवा की प्रवृत्तियों में बड़ा महत्त्वपूर्ण विकास कर रही हैं। समस्त गुजरात सामाजिक संस्था मध्यस्थ मण्डल।क जिसके आश्रय में यह अधिवेशन हो रहा है, अपने विशाल निश्चित कार्यक्रम के साथ ८० संस्थाओं की सदस्यता रखनेवाला केन्द्रीय संगठन है। यह मण्डल प्रति वर्ष सामाजिक परिषदों का आयोजन करता है और इस तरह इसने विभिन्न महत्त्वपूर्ण सामाजिक समस्याओं की ओर जनता एवम् राज्य का ध्यान आकृष्ट करने में सफलतापूर्वक मोरचा आरम्भ कर दिया है। पिछले वर्ष इस मण्डलने 'महिलाओं की आत्महत्या' और 'स्त्रियों का व्यापार'—इन विषयों पर एक परिंवाह का आयोजन किया था।

इस प्रदेश में खुले वेश्यागृह तो बिलकुल नहीं हैं। परन्तु गुप्त वेश्यावृत्ति बड़े पैमाने पर चल रही है। स्त्रियों तथा जवान लड़कियों को बेचनेवालों का एक तरहसे सुयोजित व्यवसाय सा हो गया है। सौराष्ट्र, राजस्थान और अजमेर की तरफ से प्रामाण्य विस्तारों से अनेक गरीब व अशिक्षित लड़कियों को लाकर यहाँ बाजारू चीज की भाँति किसी के भी हाथ बेच दिया जाता है। अगर शादी होती भी है तो नाम मात्र होती है क्योंकि यह पेशा करने वाले दलाल लोग कुछ ही समय में इन्हीं लड़कियों की शादी कहीं और जगह तय करते हैं और इस तरह बहुत रुपया कमाते हैं। ऐसे केसोंमें जान और प्रतिष्ठा की हानि के भय से बहुत कम लोग कोर्ट में जाते हैं।

व्यापारिक दुर्गुण चाहे वह किसी भी रूप में हो—और उसकी नीच मनोवृत्तियाँ ऐसे भयानक अनिष्ट हैं जोकि मानव के स्थान और मानव समानता की भावना का ह्रास करने के लिए सतत लगे रहते हैं। आगे बढ़ते हुए इस अनिष्ट का किसी भी प्रकार उन्मूलन करना यह हमारा सबसे प्रथम लक्ष्य होना चाहिए। इस सामाजिक रोग का उपचार करने में अनेक विभिन्न समस्याएँ समाई हुई हैं; इन में आर्थिक और सामाजिक बातें विशेष रूपसे विचारणीय हैं। मेरा यह विश्वास है कि इस महाशत्रु को हमारे द्वार परसे भगा देने के लिए उपयुक्त साधन और मार्ग ढूँढने के लिए यह अधिवेशन सभी संभव, संमिलित प्रयत्नों के साथ, इस प्रश्न की पूरी पूरी जाँच और योग्य विचार करेगा। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि मानवता को विच्छेद से बचा लेने के लिए कोई सुआयोजित कार्यक्रम यहां तैयार किया जावे। मेरी भगवान से

प्रार्थना है कि वह, अपने हेतु और उद्देश्यों को जल्दी ही सिद्ध करने में इस अधिवेशन का मार्गदर्शन करे तथा उसे उत्साह एवम् प्रेरणा दे। ईश्वर करे, यह परिषद एक ऐसा दिव्यप्रकाश बने जो मानवता से अन्धकार को हटाकर उसे आलोकित कर दे।

अन्तमें, जिन मित्रोंने इस अधिवेशन के लिए अनेक बातों में हमारी सहायता की है उन सबको मैं धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

अत्यन्त प्रसन्नता के साथ आप सबका, जो यहाँ एकत्रित हुए हैं, हृदय से स्वागत करते हुए, मैं बम्बई के राज्यपाल श्री श्रीप्रकाशजी से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि आप इस अधिवेशन का उद्घाटन करें।

जयहिन्द

An Inaugural Address on the Sixth Conference of the Association of Moral and Social Hygiene in India.

BY

H.E. Shri Sri Prakasa, Governor of Bombay.

Friends,

Think and ponder over the phenomenon around us, in whatever way we may, we are bound to feel that it is indeed a tragic world in which we live. A sense of sorrow and suffering overpowers us all the time. You verily are the salt of the earth, for you, at considerable risk to yourselves, try to lessen that tragedy, and bring solace and comfort to bleeding hearts—some light in the surrounding darkness, some hope in the midst of despair. I am, therefore, sincerely grateful to you, knowing only too well my own unworthiness, for the great and unique honour that you have done me in asking me to associate myself with your work, and come here today to inaugurate this Conference of noble-hearted persons—women particularly who, casting aside all prudery that convention enforces, look at life boldly in the face ; and tearing the veil that is hypocritically drawn over its dark and dismal facets, go forward to meet the challenge it presents, with courage and fortitude, with patience and sympathy. I bow to you in deep humility, and desire to pay my tribute of admiration and gratitude to you for all that you have done and for all that you seek to do.

The task of world-mending is verily unending. We find that as soon as we manage to accomplish one piece of work and are about to congratulate ourselves that our labour is over, we find other and bigger tasks awaiting us in the form of further evils that have to be remedied, and further difficulties that have to be removed. The Association of Social and Moral Hygiene, as its very name signifies, is out to create in this world, such social and moral conditions as might make man's life worth living ; give some dignity to men and women as such, however humble they might be ; and breathe into the world of human beings, a feeling of mutual sympathy and mutual understanding that might help to make it a less unhappy place to live in than it is. The two great urges of all sentient beings, are undoubtedly tongue and sex ; and man is no exception to the general rule, for round these revolve all the problems that

trouble him, and for the solving of which all his efforts are constantly directed. Man through the long ages of his evolution, has created vast edifices for his organized existence—he being essentially a social animal—only to meet these two demands of life that are incessantly asking for satisfaction, and the requirements of which no one can dare to neglect.

So far as I have been able to find out from literature as has been sent to me by your talented President who has herself given so much of devoted service and patient endeavour for the public weal. I gather that for the present, you are concentrating your attention on that unhappy aspect of life that leads so many of our sisters to sell their bodies to satisfy the temporary cravings of lustful men, and in return to eke out a precarious and sorrowful livelihood for themselves. The problem that doubtless this state of affairs presents, is a very difficult and delicate one. It has attracted the attention of well-meaning persons from the earliest days of so-called civilization. Many efforts have been made in many ways by many people to remove the evil ; but so far unfortunately, more, or less, in vain. It has been found, for instance, that if houses of ill-fame, as they are called, are closed by law, the evil appears in the public streets. The task, however; difficult as it is, cannot be given up simply because we have not yet succeeded in doing anything substantial or satisfactory. We have to be at our self-appointed tasks, regardless of success or failure, if for no reason, for this at least that people should know that the problem exists, and that they cannot, therefore, pretend that it does not ; and that there are men and women who are earnestly working for its solution and the eradication of the evil that it represents, so that the attention of thinking men and women might be riveted on it, and a day may come, as a result of their labours, when the problem will no more exist.

It should be our endeavour to approach the subject with the utmost sympathy. No one can claim the right to judge another harshly or to condemn anyone for supposed wrongdoing, particularly if that one happens to be weak or helpless, abandoned or an outcaste, depressed or unhappy. "Man sees the act", so says an author, "but God knows the circumstances. Let us not judge". These circumstances, however, even if they are not immediately visible: have to be unearthed and scrutinized, and their causes removed, if possible so that we might be able to breathe in a less oppressive atmosphere ; to cheer up those who are suffering ; and to assure them that not only are they not disdained, but that there are brothers and sisters who understand them and are most anxious to help and succour them in a spirit not of pity and patronage, but of true affection and genuine fellow-feeling.

So far as I can make out, nature has two—and only two—objects. One is that every individual should live in the body as long as possible. He has, therefore, been supplied with the tongue with its craving for food which enables the body to carry on from day to day. This search for food has led man to create his vast organizations of economic life which despite all their complications, ultimately serve only the simple purpose of providing him with food,

whether served on his hand or in golden vessels. Then nature's other object seems to me to be to see to it that every individual leaves behind him before his own inevitable end, beings like himself so that God's creation may be assured for all time to come. For this purpose, there are the cravings of the sex which in a most mysterious manner enables all species to survive even when every individual that is born in it, dies one by one, by efflux of time. That is why it is said of nature : "So careful of the type she seems ; So careless of the single life". To satisfy the irrepressible urgings of tongue and sex—or, in other words, the inborn desire to prolong one's own existence, as much as possible, and to perpetuate one's own species—an individual would do anything. All culture and civilization are meant only to curb and check these instincts, to regulate them in proper channels, and to make life reasonably safe and comfortable for all.

Your Association, as its name implies, is really interested in both these aspects of life as represented by tongue and sex. Food and hygiene cannot be divorced from each other. The problems of food have also to be studied very carefully ; and proper education and instruction imparted so that the evils of disease and early death that are due to bad, unwholesome or insufficient food could be avoided. In our set-up of Freedom, it is heartening to see that scientists and laymen alike are giving attention to this matter, so long woefully neglected ; and efforts are being made so that our people, according to their means, needs and tastes, might be able to provide themselves with a proper balanced diet, and keep reasonably strong and healthy. Then there is the problem of sex in which you are rightly taking particular interest because of the serious evils that its excesses and perversions have generated and continue to generate in human society. In his approach to sex, man has misused the intellect with which nature has endowed him, and created dangers and difficulties for himself from which the animals of the forest and the birds of the air, are free because those follow nature and the instincts that are implanted in them, and luckily cannot and do not use as man does, their brain to do wrong and bring unnecessary suffering to themselves. As man issued out of his earlier animal existence and came to settle down, naturally ideas of property and family arose. We will not speak here about property which pertains to his desire to satisfy his instinct for food ; but we will take the institution of family which needs our immediate consideration, and is very closely connected with the subject in hand. In the animal world, we usually see parents keeping together till the young ones are in a position to stand on their own legs and make their own way in life. The parents then part. The human child takes a very long time before it is able to look after itself. The natural instinct of looking after a child keeps its parents together. Before, however, one child is on its feet, another may and does appear. It is thus that the institution of family with permanent mutual interests and affections seems to have arisen. This has resulted also in the idea of mutual possessiveness. Father, mother, and children thus started living as a unit, and conducting themselves as such.

Man, in order to regulate his sex instincts, and not allow it to run amuck, has created the institution of marriage, and the family that has grown out of it. Unfortunately, large numbers of human beings have not been satisfied with the restrictions that such an arrangement imposes. The recognition of polygamy in many human societies, has also not sufficed to meet the desires of man. This excessive passion is not confined only to man or to the male sex. It is also shared by woman, and the female sex generally; and though prostitution as it exists today, is confined to woman, stories of older times when evidently writers wrote more freely on such matters than in later days, and were not troubled by too much prudery, show how women invited men to come to them, sometimes in a clandestine manner and not unoften in a recognized way also. Institutions of male prostitutes in some old human societies; have also been known. As, however, things go, woman has suffered more than man in promiscuous or extra-marital sex relationships. If, on the one hand, the institution of prostitution has been regarded as a danger to domestic life because availing themselves of it, men neglect their own families, and many dangerous diseases have come in the world, it is also said, on the other hand, that honest folk are able to sleep in their beds in peace as the evil elements among men go to prostitutes, and do not violate the sanctity of their neighbours' homes as they would otherwise certainly do. Some people have gone even so far as to say that honest householders should, every morning offer thanks to those unhappy sisters called prostitutes who, from generation to generation; have sacrificed themselves so that others could live in comfort and safety. In support of their implied contention that prostitution should not be abolished, they go even so far as to aver that in places where there are no prostitutes, there is a great deal of adultery which must be regarded as a greater menace to peaceful social existence. The statement has to be carefully examined, and the exact position ascertained for help in our future work on right lines.

I am forgetting details, but I remember to have read somewhere of how when the women of a town—I believe it was in China—were in danger on account of the sudden influx of soldiers of an invading army bent on mischief, the prostitutes of the place immediately took counsel among themselves and decided to go out boldly in a body to satisfy the lust of the soldiers, saying to each other: "Come, let us go to please these wicked men for that is our profession, and thus protect our innocent sisters living with their families, from the attention of the soldiers, and enable them to remain pure and undefiled." Incidents such as these should make everyone of us sit up and think on the subject in its true perspective, and with a great deal of understanding sympathy, so that we might be able to take practical steps to raise the moral nature of man, and create conditions in which the evil aspects of his life could be eliminated, without ourselves unnecessarily condemning anyone or putting on a cloak of self-righteous superiority that does no good, and may even do harm to the very cause we seek to espouse.

We all know that a large numbers of women were deliberately kept in the old days in the neighbourhood of barracks of European soldiers in India, to cater to the lusts of these men. It was said that this was unavoidable because British soldiers were, at that time, not allowed to marry, and it was necessary to provide for some recognized avenue for the satisfaction of their natural instincts, living as they did dangerous lives in foreign lands. This wicked system because of its obvious impropriety, and the opposition it quite rightly engendered, was later abolished. In the old days just as parents made provision for food for their children, they also made provision for their marriage. Everybody was married when the marriageable age came as prescribed by the custom of particular groups or communities. Ideas have considerably changed since then in this as in other matters. The age of marriage in many communities has now become very much higher by custom, than has been made permissible even by law. A convention has been growing that man must be self-supporting before he marries. The age of marriage has, therefore, been going up rapidly. Notions about being self-supporting differ from man to man and group to group; and so there have been further complications in the attempt of the individual to co ordinate his ideal of the standard for his material existence, and his natural instinct for companionship with a member of the other sex. As, however, these instincts cannot be suppressed only on account of human aspirations and ideals, the problem that we are met to tackle has, in a way, become more difficult instead of becoming simpler and easier. The Association of Social and Moral Hygiene as therefore, also to undertake a very careful consideration of the age of marriage, standards of line, and other connected matters before the difficult and delicate problem of prostitution as a whole can be resolved. The building of happy homes is the sure cure of most of our ills. We should concentrate on that at every step. The problem of family planning and education of the young in matters pertaining to sex are, I find, subjects with which your Association is already dealing. I am glad of that, for we should all know what we are about. If we make mistakes even then, as we most probably would, we would do so with open eyes. We shall then stand to blame ourselves: we would not be able to put the blame on any others.

In this connection, I should also like to say that for some strange reasons into which I need not go here, no difference was made in our land by reformers some decades back, between women artistes-dancers, singers, musicians generally-on the one hand, and prostitutes, on the other. This had a most deleterious effect on the growth of our fine arts, especially in the North. When even the great artistes simply because they did not marry and gave themselves up to the devotion of their art, came to be regarded as no better than prostitutes, they naturally lost heart and their great profession itself fell into disrepute. I cannot deny the fact that many of them had lovers, with whom their relations were not unoften, on a permanent basis-a fact not hidden on sought to be hidden in any way from their family and friends-and who in their turn, were patrons of dance and song which they missed in their

own homes, and could find only in the houses of these artistes. These lovers, I am bound to add, were themselves family men, and were respectable and even respected members of society. Their wives knew their lapses, but being unable to prevent the same, they helplessly acquiesced in the arrangement. The cultivation of fine arts was unfortunately studiously discouraged in what were known as respectable homes because of such associations. I am happy that through the efforts of the All India Radio as well as several official and non-official organizations to revive and preserve our ancient arts, dance and song and music have now come to be recognized as proper subject of study and cultivation in schools and colleges ; and those who practise them are rightly honoured today by Government and society alike. We cannot but be glad that that is so. So much depends on proper education that every effort must be made to teach proper values of life to our boys and girls, our young men and women, and they be helped to keep themselves on the right path and safe from harm.

All that I have said above, inevitably impels me to draw your attention to the actual condition of our homes. I fear we are not paying any attention to them at all, though everything depends on them. A nation is only a cluster of homes ; and if homes are happy, then everything is good ; and when these are unhappy, everything is bad. Women know about these matters very much more than, I fear, I can possibly do ; and it is in their hands more than in anyone else's, to put things right. If we have happy and attractive homes, then many problems that trouble us would be easily and almost automatically solved. When these are unhappy and unattractive, then everything will go wrong whatever we might do. All work of social and moral hygiene must begin there. We have to study the budgets of various income groups and advise persons concerned as to how they can make the best of the resources they have, to make their houses cheerful and content. Our greatest need is happy homes of which there are but few in our land today. Among the causes of the evil which you are tackling ; the main one to my mind, is domestic unhappiness. This drives men and women helplessly to improper ways. The way the woman goes is particularly unfortunate. As society would have nothing to do with any woman who has once been even suspected of straying from the strict path of rectitude, the evil gets further stratified and strengthened, and its eradication becomes the more difficult. It is said that women in search of gay life and easy money-and to escape the drudgery of the home-go in for a life of prostitution. There may be something in that. The fact, however, is that what is drudgery becomes real joy when there is love ; and what is otherwise pleasant becomes irksome when there is no affection and attachment. It is not only women who have to drudge. Men also drudge to keep things going. If boiling the pot at home is hard work for women, to help to keep it boiling also means very hard work for men outside the home. True love with its proper sex relations between man and woman is the cure for all ills ; and improper sex relations between them, without love, is the cause of most of our troubles.

Then there is the other great cause, namely, poverty which drives women to prostitution. When there are so many women who are not married and cannot marry, and who have no one to look after them, society must provide proper professions for them, otherwise they are bound to go in for what is called a life of shame to keep the wolf from the door. Even when they have nothing else to give to earn their livelihood, they have something that they can give without any previous training. As there are always men on the lookout for what these unhappy women can offer, they are soon tempted-and so lost. Efforts have to be made that such contingencies do not occur. When we have solved the problems of domestic unhappiness and poverty of the uncared-for women, we can reasonably expect that the harsher aspects of prostitution will disappear. No one, however, can ensure the abolition of all evil from the world. Let us not forget that the idea of evil itself is based on convention ; and it differs not only in different countries but even in different communities in the same country. Very often we meet with sharply conflicting ideas of right and wrong among different groups of human beings. These are all based on convention that itself arises from the force of circumstances and environments in which different groups and communities function. Even when domestic unhappiness and poverty are eradicated, there would always be the natural urges of men and women alike, which would defy society's general ideas of right and wrong, of good and evil, when these go counter to them. What we seek, however, is that prostitution in its harsh and cruel aspects where woman has to give her body to satisfy the lust of man for the sake of money, even against her wishes, should be abolished. When that is done, we can afford to neglect such of the aspects of sex life as may find expression on what may be called a voluntary basis, in various ways in human society, bereft of the cruelties, vulgarities and inhumanities that are associated with prostitution as a trade. Today we have to concentrate on the abolition of these ; and we cannot afford to break our hearts that we cannot have an ideal world with ideal men and women, as we would like to see.

We should be glad that we have made a good beginning ; that we have attracted the attention of the world to a fostering evil to which it was cynically indifferent that we have shown what work has got to be done to save our unsuspecting sisters from going to paths that lead to their doom ; that we have shaken up the so-called respectable men and women from their lethargy and smug complacency to a sense of their duty by themselves and society at large. I know that many social reformers have great faith in curing evil by sanctions of law. They want the State to come very prominently in the picture. I must confess I am not one of them. The attempt to make men moral by legislation has never appealed to me. I admit the need and value of proper laws, and all that these have done for human betterment. To my mind, however, a law has to follow and not to precede right living and right thinking. When generally a people begin to think after long years of patient work and educative propaganda by the reformers, that such a thing is right or that such a custom should go, then law can come to

help in curbing the few recalcitrants that do not still think so, and actively interfere with the freedom of the major portion of the population. That has been the process in almost every case we can think of—whether it relates to our laws regarding property or family life, whether it deals with theft or infidelity. Putting the cart before the horse helps no one. The present tendency to have a law for everything, whether it is honoured more in the breach than in the observance, does not seem to trouble our well-meaning legislators. Let us take the glaring illustration of the British Government in India making laws galore against those who fought for the country's freedom. We all know how these were deliberately broken ; and how, in the end, the British had to bow before the will of the people, and retire. We also know that the law, to take an illustration, against early marriage, even when the offence was made cognisable, was openly and universally flouted. Now but few, even in the countryside, marry their sons and daughters as early as they used to do before. That has resulted not so much because of the law, but because of enlightened public opinion. This has, therefore, first to be educated and mobilized in the matter of prostitution as well. Law can then come, and put the coping stone.

It may perhaps be interesting to record—you would probably be knowing the fact already yourselves—that many of the women artistes of my home town of Banaras (or Varanasi as it is now called) and the neighbouring places including the cities of Bihar, made up their minds a bare generation back, that they would not bring up their children in their own trade. They created a caste for themselves called Gandharva—castes spring up easily in our country—and started legal marriages among themselves sanctified by religious ceremonial. Members of this caste or community have now become respectable members of society even if a generation back, they could not name their fathers and only knew who their mothers were. Our society is basically tolerant, and soon absorbs new castes and creeds. These artistes were cultured, educated, and well-to-do. They perhaps could do things comparatively easily. The prostitutes, as such, are in no position to help themselves. I should very much like you to invite their representatives to such conferences, and take counsel with them, understand their wishes and aspirations, their sorrows and sufferings, and help them to help themselves in the way that would be most conducive for their own well-being as well as that of society as a whole. I do not know how this could be done. You, with your knowledge and experience, are in the best position to suggest ways and means for doing the right thing. I say this because I have a fear that without the active help and co-operation of the persons concerned themselves, much progress may not be possible in the great task that you have so boldly undertaken. Perhaps you have already given your thought to this matter. May be, you will give more as the days go by.

It only remains for me now to declare this Conference formally inaugurated as you have so generously desired me to do ; and as I perform this very pleasant duty, I pray that the great and good work in which you are engaged, may prosper and yield fruitful results ;

that the great ideal that you have placed before yourselves, be achieved ; that success may crown your efforts in giving us a society every member of which performs his or her duties properly and well, and offers his or her rightful contribution to national well-being, and thus makes himself or herself deserving of the Freedom that we have achieved, and worthy of the great future that we seek to build.

A Brief Report of the Work done by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India.

BY

Mrs Shakuntla Lall, B. Sc., LL.B., Honorary General Secretary

Today we are assembled here in the great city of Ahmedabad for the 6th Conference of Association for moral and Social Hygiene in India. This Association was started in the year 1928 but Conference like the present have not been an Annual feature. Previously, we met at Delhi, Calcutta, Lucknow, Chandigarh and Jaipur. Since we met last in the year 1956, at Jaipur the Association has made a steady headway toward reaching its goal namely :—

- (1) The eradication of commercialised prostitution and kindred evils.
- (2) Condemnation of all forms of State Regulation of prostitution.
- (3) The raising of the standard of character and healthy outlook on Sex matters, thus promoting better family relationship ensuring a recognition that sound national life must be based upon a wholesome family life.

To achieve these aims, besides other difficulties, there was a lack of trained workers to work for these objectives and run model homes for the treatment and rehabilitation of women and girls rescued from brothels and places of moral danger. But now on the basis of the 2nd Five Year Plan, the Central Social Welfare Board has undertaken the opening of model homes for the rehabilitation of the women who are brought back from the evil places in each state, and has introduced a training course in school of social work to train workers specially suited to meet the need. The course consists of one year training in the Madras School of Social Work. This school has already trained two batches.

The Head Office of the Association at New Delhi recently has seen important changes. Smt. Rameshwari Nehru who has been associated with our organisation since its very inception and has been the President of the Association for the last decade, desired to be relieved of this responsibility on account of ill health. Her resignation was reluctantly

accepted We are happy that she agreed to remain in the Executive Committee to guide us in our future work. Mrs. Shanti Kabir who had very ably worked as the Hony. Genl. Secy. for the last ten years also wanted to discontinue in that capacity on account of bad health. Very reluctantly this was also agreed to but we are glad that Mrs. Kabir accepted to serve the Association in the capacity of the Vice-President. We are also fortunate that Dr. Sushila Nayar inspite of her pre-occupation as a Member of the Parliament and otherwise was persuaded by Smt. Rameshwari Nehru to accept the responsibility of becoming the President of our Association and the burden of Hony. Genl. Secretaryship has fallen on my shoulders. In the death of Mrs. Hannah Sen who was our Vice-President for many years left a vacuum which is not easy to fill. A resolution about it will come before the Conference later.

Our financial position has been fairly satisfactory this year. Our funds which mainly consist of a Government aid through Central Social Welfare Board were not enough to meet our various liabilities specially because the aid has to be spent on specific items. To meet the other expenses, we organised a Charity Film Show and a Meena Bazar at New Delhi and it brought us about Rs. 5000/-. A fund Raising Sub-Committee has been formed by the Association and it is proposed to raise more funds on a similar basis before the end of this financial year.

Our Association has continued its affiliation with the International Abolitionists Federation, Geneva, the Indian Conference of Social Work, All India Women Conference and National Council of Women in India. Unfortunately our affiliation with these organisations have not yield any tangible result so far. It is proposed that we would make our connection with these Association more effective for promoting the objectives of the A. M. S. H. I. for otherwise affiliation of a body like ours with another has no meaning.

The A. M. S. H. I has several Sub-Committees for its activities. One of those is the Education Sub-Committee. This Sub-Committee has done in the period under review very good work, with the co-operation of the Delhi University. A Student Counselling Centre was opened in a room in the University building. The object of this centre was to give advice to the students in the matter of sex, marriage etc Services of experienced social workers and medical practitioners were obtained and a series of lectures were given to the students at the Delhi University. In these meetings, students were encouraged to ask questions and it invoked very good response. The Education Sub-Committee now intends to organise similar lectures amongst students of the senior classes in the Higher Secondary School also.

Another Sub-Committee which has been entrusted the work of promoting another important activity of the Association is the Health Sub-Committee. It has decided to start a Socio Medical Centre for treatment and control of Venereal Diseases in Delhi. It is hoped that experience so gained will enable the Association to expand similar activities in the near future.

Another Sub-Committee which has been very active is the Legal Sub-Committee. The draft bill for the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls prepared by this Committee has already become an Act and Legal Sub-Committee is now anxious to see that it is properly implemented and which would assure uniformity of action in various states.

At present the A. M. S. H. I. has branches at Delhi, Patna, Lucknow, Agra, Bombay; Jaipur, Chandigarh and Bangalore. A new branch is going to be opened in Madhya Pradesh. It is our effort that we should have branches at least in the capitals of all the states. There has not been much co-ordination in the activities of various branches and some of the branches have not been very active. It is proposed to take steps to remedy this situation as early as possible for which we solicit the active co-operation of all concerned. Dr. Sushila Nayar our new President, is already in correspondance with various state Governments with a view to get workable data regarding the present position and its allied evils. Some of the data has been received from various states and the rest is awaited. A symposium has been included in the agenda on this subject, as this is done, efforts will be made to make a headway both with our branches as well as the co-operation of various state Governments.

Presidential Address

BY

Smt. Violet Alva ; Deputy Home Minister, Govt. of India.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I deeply appreciate the honour you have done me this evening to be amidst you all to preside at the Sixth Annual Conference of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India. Knowing the magnitude of the problem that we in this country have to tackle in the field of Moral and Social Hygiene, I readily accepted Dr. Sushila Nayar's request to be here today. I am here before eminent social workers of the country who have ceaselessly worked for the uplift of our unfortunate sisters. I am happy to associate myself with this thirty-year old Association which has brought about a new consciousness in society with its praiseworthy aims and untiring efforts. Dr. Sushila Nayar had the unique privilege of spending her best years with the Father of the Nation and knew his method of work and practical approach for the downtrodden and the lost women. The work of this Association has gathered momentum from year to year and decade to decade. The task yet is however big, so must our endeavours be. It is not a problem that faces either this country or this age alone. It is from times immemorial that right thinking men and women have tried, have applied their minds, and made every effort to reclaim those who have for some reason or the other fallen into degradation. The history of prostitution from Babylon to India is the same. It was Josephine Butler in the West who gave a human touch and proved that the problem of prostitution had always been encouraged by society and the state while the prostitutes have been persecuted down the ages. In India, Dr. Muthulaxmi Reddi has contributed very much in awakening public mind to eradicating the evil of *devadasis*. The human body is sacred, nay the belief is that the human body is manifestation of the Divine and still down the centuries prostitution has meant branding the women alone. Looking around me and looking back at the tremendous achievements of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India I yet fail to see, may be I am wrong, any one-time fallen sister here amidst us commanding our respect and admiration that she has come up to our level of respectability. Let us then set a new tempo to our work as they have done in other countries such as Russia, China and Czechoslovakia, where the stigma has been washed away and unfortunate women have been lifted up from the houses of ill fame and shame

to a state of glory. It is only then that we shall be able to talk with pride when the reclaimed women will be in a position to participate in a Conference like this, proud of their new status, not ashamed to narrate their past. *Fallen but risen again.*

Even in ancient Rome one of the Emperors altered the old Roman laws regarding prostitution, permitted the marriage of citizens with prostitutes and encouraged by his own example. His own wife, the Empress Theodora, had been a ballet-dancer and a prostitute. When she attained the imperial dignity, her first thought was of her old companions and she did what she could for them. Whatever knowledge we can gather is by research and active work amidst our unfortunate sisters. From the time of the League of Nations, international attention has been focussed on this menace of immoral trafficking where not only inter-State but also international gangs operate in lowering the standards of morality that defy all standards of decency. What then is the alternative? India has ratified the Convention of the United Nations relating to the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of others. Shrimati Durgabai Deshmukh, Chairman of the Central Social Welfare Board, has devoted time and attention to this singular problem that is engaging the attention of Government and non-Governmental organisations. Shrimati Rama Rau and her Committee have given us a valuable report. Shrimati Indira Gandhi spared no effort, as the Chairman of the Committee appointed by the Central Social Welfare Board, to draw up a careful programme of After-Care services. Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru, your past President, has spared no pains in attending to this problem before and after the partition of the country when along with the refugee problem also the problem of immoral traffic increased considerably.

Waste Product of Civilization

Human passions cannot be changed by human legislation alone. For hundreds of years the Governments of Europe have tried in vain to dry up the sources of prostitution; with the opening of the present century they began to dike in the river and prevent avoidable mischief. For long time we too have had laws against prostitution, which, with every proper effort on the part of those in authority have proved not very useful to book those who live by this illicit traffic spreading disease and desperation around. Eradication of this evil is possible only when womanhood is emancipated in the real sense. If you go back to the primitive society you find complete equality between the man and the woman until civilization pushed her back by stages till she became either a drudge or a doll but in every sense a chattel. Woman's condition thus drifted to a complete economic dependence on the man. She then lost her moral fibre and society in every age, in every clime, tolerated pursuit of man's lust and prostitution came to be known as the oldest profession in the world. India has awakened to a new consciousness and with that consciousness we feel a new urge to approach this problem in a more dispassionate manner than did our forebears in the past. No longer can any people condemn the prostitute without condemning the men who keep the profession going. If one

wanted to suppress prostitution, one had to suppress men first. How many women were happy selling their bodies? Most seemed disgusted with their profession. It was no use suppressing them without knowing the root cause of the disease. Prostitution like any other commodity, depends on demand and supply. Gandhiji said:—

“Of all the evils for which man has made himself responsible, none is so degrading, so shocking or so brutal as his abuse of the better half of humanity, to me the female sex, not the weaker sex. It is nobler of the two, for even today the embodiment of sacrifice, silent suffering, humility, faith and knowledge. A woman’s intuition has often proved truer than man’s arrogant assumption of superior knowledge. There is method in putting Sita before Rama, and Radha before Krishna. Let us not delude ourselves into the belief that this gambling in vice has a place in our evolution because it is rampant and in some cases even State-regulated in civilized Europe. Let us not also perpetuate the vice on the strength of Indian precedents. We should cease to grow the moment we cease to discriminate between the virtue and vice and slavishly copy the past which we do not fully know. We are proud heirs to all that was noblest and best in the bygone age. We must not dishonour our heritage by multiplying past errors. In a self-respecting India is not every woman’s virtue as much as every man’s concern as his own sisters?

“Man is primarily responsible for the existence of these unfortunate members of society. Let the Indian man ponder over the fate of the thousands of sisters who are destined to a life of shame for his unlawful and immoral indulgence. The pity of it is that the vast majority of men who visit these pestilential haunts are married men and therefore commit a double sin. They sin against their wives to whom they have sworn allegiance, and they sin against the sisters whose purity they are bound to guard with as much jealousy as that of their own blood sisters. It is an evil which cannot last for a single day, if we men of India realise our own dignity.

“What is worse or more hurtful to society—to steal property, or to steal the honour of a woman?

“Does not man by his subtle and unscrupulous ways first rob woman of her noblest instinct and then make her a partner in the crime committed against her?

“This moral leprosy, the work among the unfortunate sisters must be left everywhere to the experts. My suggestion has reference to work among the visitors to these houses of ill fame.”

Providing of Rescue Homes and District Shelters and After-Care Homes is an excellent programme under our Five-Year Plan but nevertheless with our efforts from the Centre and the States, and with all our shoulders put to the wheel, it will touch only the fringe of the problem. Illiteracy, ignorance, superstition and economic serfdom above all is the root cause of this evil. What is morality? Where is it found? In high society? That has its own story where often you find cases of marriage made a mockery. Cheap imitation of the western mode of life have often made us miss the real values of life that it has offered us. In every strata of society you will find some element of promiscuity. Not only fallen women but fallen men are the waste product of society. It is not possible to wipe out promiscuous tendencies found in men and women but commercialised vice must be eradicated. Until that is done womanhood cannot be emancipated in the real sense.

Institution of Family

The institution of family counts much in these days when men and women are learning to work together in all walks of life. It is the early training that gives a human being his basic character. All the more it is necessary that we fight against certain trends in society in our daily life—pornographic literature, advertisements that appeal to the sex all the time, the cinema that lowers the moral standards and depicts human life as it is not, shop windows that misguide the adolescent are all contributory factors and, above all, the cheap contraceptives hawked on our pavements do not help us in family planning as much as they tempt to and break down the resistance of our youth. Family planning must be handled on a spiritual plane and contraceptives must be sold through registered chemists only. The present day conditions in our country, nay the world over, push the age of marriage further and further away and even when marriage is possible, lack of facilities, proper housing, add to the strain of working men and women. The human body is sacred but sex has to be viewed in a natural and rational way. Therefore, we must endeavour at all levels, be it Governmental or non Governmental, to see that families live together as far as possible and that young men and women have an opportunity to settle down in matrimony. Social insurance schemes should be introduced so that minimum living standards could be guaranteed to persons wishing to get married early or have a family to support. Working women must have proper housing facilities and not be thrown on to the temptations of designing evil men and women. We hear of cases where women have become victims of men in offices where they work. A deterrent measure has to be devised for the misbehaving male. Working women have at the same time to set up high standards of decorum and decency when they work with men.

Clandestine prostitution is very common and widespread. It is an admitted fact that even under the law it is difficult to get a conviction even though the case is convincing for a conviction. Thus we find ourselves putting in our best effort at one end in reclaiming those whom we feel have been lost to society not bothering about those who patronise and keep up

the immoral practices. The pimps, the procurers and brothel-keepers never let a bird go from the cage and are daily in search of fledgelings to put them into this cage of vice.

Role of Police

What then shall be the role of our Police whose minds are warped and who certainly are not adequately suited by training they receive either to look upon or do the type of service we want from them ? This Conference certainly must have discussed all these aspects in the past and shall discuss it now and in the future too. We certainly shall have to give a reorientation to our approach and learn to count the reclaimed sisters among our numbers.

Industrialization and urbanisation both break the back bone of morality. Easy morals and clandestine prostitution in high society are often condoned. We should with a sense of impartiality be able to condemn easy virtues and commercialised vice wherever they are found. Commercialised vice is found often in places where one least suspects. However, I shall leave it to eminent public workers in the country to deal with this vital aspect.

Recreation

How do we help to eradicate this vice, commercialised vice ? Our young men and women, especially in the cities have no scope for recreation where they can expend their physical energy and rest contented to follow their normal pursuits. Congested housing, lack of recreation, physical and intellectual starvation and lack of any form of cultural activities is a very important cause for the breakdown in standards of morality in men and women. We have as yet made no attempts to build up the aesthetic side of human nature. Not long sermons but service alone can bring mirth and laughter to millions who live in sub-normal conditions of life. This Conference should now search for an avenue in which it can build up public opinion in localities where there can be a happy hour for the grown-ups after their day's task is done. We are trying to achieve this target in our rural areas but the cities are completely ignored and cinema and sex become the only recreation. Sex should never be treated as something secret.

"Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,
As, to be hated, needs but to be seen ;
Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,
We first endure, then pity, then embrace."

Children are the Wealth of a Nation

Children should be guided and their curiosity satisfied from their early age on the subject of sex. Every care should be taken in the bringing up of children for on them would lie the burdens of tomorrow.

Registration of Domestic Servants

In cities working parents have to leave their innocent children in incompetent hands whose antecedents and pre-dilections are not known. Sad cases of offences against minors are reported. It is time that this problem engages the attention of our social workers in the country. Children are the wealth of a nation. It is no use saying that. Registration of domestic servants is, therefore, the need of the hour. It is high time that every State in India pays attention to solving this problem to the little ones who cannot speak for themselves. Womens' organisations could launch a campaign in this direction as every housewife would be interested. Women in great numbers are out of their homes working either for economic reasons or personal satisfaction. Children and homes are more and more left to hired hands at least for some part of the day.

Homes, middle class, lower or upper, all employ fulltime or part time servants according to their means. As yet in India we neither have the modern amenities in the flat nor the correct out-look.

Lack of opportunities of employment also drives thousands to become domestic servants. How does a domestic servant get employed? He is introduced by someone from his fraternity or he depends entirely on his own certificates sometimes genuine, sometimes borrowed and sometimes faked. We do not know the man's or woman's history or past life, whether he is diseased or wanted by police or a convict or a thorough born whom the wheels of fortune has flung on evil days. Rarely do we get their addresses in full, rarely do we want to know their next of kin or the place of their birth. Such then is our dependency on our servants at home and to such we entrust our children and homes, often to come to grief. In quite a number of house-breaking cases and burglaries and above all molestation of women the servant or ex-servant is involved. To rectify this state of affairs, registration of domestic servants would give a sense of security to the employer and employee both, and I commend to this Conference to make it a fact, to make it a living reality, for which working parents shall ever be grateful to those who think of their problems and solve it for them and the nation.

U.N. Convention Ratified

We have recently enacted the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Children Act which is one of the most advanced pieces of social legislation because it provides, for the first time, a scope for protection of girls up to the age of 21, enables adult women to seek voluntary admissions into the Protection Homes which are provided as an integral part of the implementing machinery under the Act. It also provides for Association of voluntary agencies right from the stage of investigation of a single specific case up to the stage of trial under the Act. Under the Second Five-Year Plan, the Union Home Ministry will spend three crores of

rupees which will be fifty per cent of the contribution that the States shall have to make during the Plan period. Our Home Minister, Shri Govind Ballabh Pant's vigilant eye and sympathetic attitude will ever encourage and guide our efforts.

Not resources of money and homes but a frontal attack on those who keep up the demand for commercialised vice alone can achieve any measure of success. Let us then see the problem in the right perspective. .

“There is in every human heart,
Some not entirely barren part,
Where flowers of richest scent may blow,
And fruit in glorious sunlight grow.”

Present Position of Prostitution in India

BY

Dr. Sushila Nayar President A.M.S.H.I.

Let me at the very beginning make it clear that I feel very much humiliated that ten years after independence we should be meeting here to discuss the present position of the problem of prostitution in India. We started with a great moral fervour and our very struggle for independence was conducted on a moral basis under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. Our tall claims to moral and spiritual values cannot be reconciled with the continuance of prostitution. It is a matter of great sorrow that even today there are responsible men and women who have serious doubts whether prostitution can be eliminated. Some of them even question the wisdom of such a drive. I have been shocked to hear from those who should know better "women of good families will not be safe if no prostitutes were available." This argument is too absurd to need an elaborate reply. Others say "this evil has existed from times immemorial and you cannot expect to eradicate it". This too is no argument to my mind. The very fact that some women have gone through the hell of leading a prostitute's life for a long time is a reason for putting an end to it at the earliest. Our neighbouring country, China, had equally long history of commercialised vice and prostitution and yet in less than ten years after freedom from foreign domination, they have eradicated this evil and have treated, cured and rehabilitated thousands of prostitutes. What they have done, we can also do if there is a determined and sustained around effort. I have, therefore, no doubt in my mind that complete eradication of prostitution should be our goal and, if we do well, most of the homes that we are starting today for rescue work may become available for other purposes, such as care of the destitute and aged and infirm within a few years. But that would mean not only rescue, education and rehabilitation of the existing prostitutes, but also plugging the holes to prevent fresh entries into the gates of hell. As you will hear later from other speakers today and tomorrow, there is a good deal of traffic in women and girls still going on in certain parts of the country, especially the hill areas. The defects in the law and its implementation have stood in the way of catching and dealing with the traficers with sufficient severity to have a deterrent effect. The members of AURASHI and its branches and others interested in the problem will have to work hard to create the public opinion which can

exercise sufficient pressure on all concerned to remove these defects. The defects of law you will hear more about when that subject is taken up. An all India law against traffic in women and girls has been passed by the Parliament. But the rule making power therein has been given to the States which has led to delay in its implementation. It remains to be seen how uniform and effective the operation will be when the rules have been framed by the different States and the Act is brought into force all over India. The Act in operation at present will be replaced by this new Central Act.

We had asked for reports on the present position of prostitution from all the States. We have received them from most of the states. They are not thorough and complete. The reports from our branches should have given us full information, but even those are not what they could be. Some reports are much better than others but none of them are really based on a thorough survey or study of the problem. We shall have to do a considerable amount of spade work to have full knowledge of the present position. The Moral and Social Hygiene Advisory Committee of the C.S.W.B. has done a commendable job, but if the object is eradication of prostitution a very thorough study will have to be made by the special police in each State who should be helped by our branches and other social workers. Special police unit for this work with special training and social workers back ground is absolutely necessary at the central and state level. There should be a majority of women in this special police. Proper type of patrolling by plain clothed men and women with a social worker's outlook is necessary to trace the trafficeers, brothel keepers and prostitutes.

What do we understand from the word prostitution. The law generally defines it as "Promiscuous sexual intercourse for hire." Ryle Scott defines it as "A prostitute is an individual male or female, who for some kind of gain, monetary or otherwise or for some form of personal satisfaction, and as a part time or whole time profession, engages in normal or abnormal sexual intercourse with various persons who may be of the same sex or the opposite sex to the prostitute." In the Union Central Act for Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls 1956, Prostitution is defined as "The act of a female offering her body for promiscuous sexual intercourse for hire whether in money or kind." In the eyes of the law Prostitution is like any other profession or trade a personal affair. The law takes notice of it only when it becomes a nuisance to society as for instance :

- (a) Soliciting.
- (b) Prostitution in places of public amusement.
- (c) Living on the earning of a prostitute.
- (d) Procuring.
- (e) Unlawfully detaining women and girls for prostitution.
- (f) Keeping brothels and so on.

A prostitute can practise her profession by herself unhindered so long as she is not being exploited by a brothel keeper or is not seen soliciting and corrupting innocent young men. This leads to all kinds of subterfuges. The prostitute needs pimp and solicits through them. The brothel keepers will often keep women in single room tenements so that they appear to be practising their profession on their own, whereas 50% of their earnings are pocketed by the brothel keeper who might pose as an old aunt or some other relative looking after the prostitute. The life of a prostitute is such that she cannot attract business for herself, she procures other young women and girls to do it for her as she is not fit for earning her living in any other way. Thus the recognition of a woman's right to practise prostitution on her own render the plea of fundamental rights is the biggest hurdle in the way of eliminating prostitution. Prostitution in any form must be made an offence in the eyes of the law if we wish to take up the problem of eliminating it in right earnest. I am unable to understand the concern for individual freedom when it comes to prohibiting prostitution when we have prohibition against alcoholic drinks. If that is consistent with individual freedom and I stand all out for Prohibition of alcoholic drinks. I do not see why fundamental rights need be infringed by prohibiting Prostitution. Wherever a woman is keeping open house and prostitution is known to be practised, the law must step in. This will not take care of individual proscuity and commercialised vice also may go underground as a result ; but that happens whenever any attempt is made to control it. Individual morality can only be taken care of by proper education and home influence. As for the latter namely commercialised vice going underground an enlightened public opinion will not allow commercialised vice to flourish in a clandestine manner. It is generally in the hotels certain homes and such other places that clandestine prostitution goes on. Proper vigilance and patrolling with the help of vigilant public opinion can take care of the problem. Generally the neighbours know as to what is taking place and if they help the police and police is dependable the problem can be effectively tackled. Punishment for the traficeers or brothel keepers must be deterrent. As for the prostitute, it is not punishment that is necessary but to find the causes and to remove them so that the woman can return to normal healthy life. In any case fines as punishment for the prostitute or her collaborators do not do any good what-so-ever.

Coming to the causes of Prostitution, in India the most important cause is economic distress. All those who have gone into the causes of prostitution and have interrogated the prostitutes have come to the same conclusion.

The second cause is social customs leading to early widowhood, dedication of girls to temples. Devdasi system, which has been prohibited by law, but is still going on in many places, and so on.

Ignorance also plays its part and a girl or a woman might get lost in a Mela or at a

Railway Station and fall into the hands of evil people and even if she escapes from them later the family will not accept her back so that she is condemned to a life of Prostitution.

In India there are certain communities wherein Prostitution is a hereditary profession, the daughters carrying on the profession and the brothers helping them as pimps and procurers or as music accompanists when the girls have been trained for singing and dancing. These girls do not generally seem to think there is anything wrong with the type of life they lead. They often sing and dance for money, but live with one patron till he dies or deserts her.

There are some who take to prostitution for earning easy money and getting luxuries which they cannot obtain otherwise. This class is most difficult to deal with. It has increased after partition.

The last type, the sexual pervert, would appear to be extremely rare in India. But here again, we have no reliable or thorough study to back this observation.

The remedy therefore is not simple or easy, The socio-economic factors have to be taken into consideration and suitable alternative avenues of employment found not only for the prostitutes, but also their dependents. Preventive measures would include legislation as well as determined effort on the part of the Police and public to implement the legislation effectively. Socio-economic factors which drive so many women to this profession must also be taken note of and suitable remedies found. Some say; it has to wait for economic betterment of the country. But that is a fallacious argument. No country in the world is the U. S. A. and they have Prostitution and clandestine commercialised vice in that country on a scale which is not insignificant. Therefore, we cannot wait for this reform to be applied till we are a prosperous nation.

In the work of rescue treatment and rehabilitation as well as in the field of preventive measure, the Madras State has done the best work so far. I think much credit belongs to Shrimati V.T. Lakshmi for developing an effective vigilance service and after care programme at Madras.

The Central S.W.B. has chalked out a programme for starting care and after care homes in all the states if the State Governments and social workers would take the initiative and have also started training programmes for the training of workers for running these at certain schools of social work. The Madras school of social work has already trained two batches most of whom, I hear have already been employed. The C. S. W. B. is to be congratulated for what they have done. But I think in order to eradicate the evil, much work has to be done. Each State should have four types of homes and bigger states will

need several sets of these. They are (1) Reception homes with adequate facilities for the treatment of venereal diseases. (2) Care and training homes to fit them for rehabilitation. (3) After care homes and hostels where the girls can live when they are discharged from the institution and have found a home. It is very curious that while it is very difficult to find relatives to own the boys who are discharged from certified school, there are many relatives wishing to claim the girls. Great care must be taken not to hand over the girls to people who might exploit them so that they again fall into the same miserable life. Some care has to be exercised in marriage arrangement also. There are several cases where marriage is a pretext to get the girls for immoral purposes. A safe shelter where the girl can return to after the day's work is therefore very necessary. (4) The last type of home should take care of the aged and infirm who are today enticing young girls into the field of prostitution to support them as they have nothing else to fall back upon.

The problem of venereal disease control is a most important field of activity for our Association. Most of the States reports describe Venereal disease Clinics attached to hospitals. They are useful but not enough, Venereal Disease Clinics should form part of all health centres and maternity and child welfare centres, so that people can go there freely without the fear of attracting public attention. There must be social workers male and female to trace and bring contacts for examination and treatment. Sex education and student counselling programmes should explain dangers of Venereal Diseases and the way to get treatment for such conditions. In Delhi the AMASHI is having a good programme of student counselling for the last one year or so. But this has to spread to all the States if it is to make an impression on our national life.

Mrs. Alwa in her Presidential address has mentioned the need for registration of domestic servants. I wish to put before you with the emphasis at my command the urgent need for a Central Act for registration and supervision of all Homes for women and children run in different places all over the country. I am fully aware of the great role private charity has played in this important work. Yet there are vice dens run by evil people in the name of charity. They must be stopped and genuine humanitarian work given due recognition and help by the state.

I am afraid I have taken longer than I had intended to. There are several other speakers and after they have read their papers, the subject will be thrown open for discussion.

Reports of Some Rescued Girls

BY

Dr. Sm. M. Ratnamma Issac

I am forwarding this paper just to show you the various difficulties one comes up against when dealing with the girls who are admitted in the Rescue Homes. They are various—To get at the truth of their statements to the admitting Officer, to me, to the police and from their relations is next to impossible. In spite of these difficulties in the course of their stay with us we have been able to arrive at almost the true state of affairs.

Here is a typical case. One X aged 17½ years, belonging to an orthodox family was brought to us on 6-9-54. This was their version. They said that they had adopted this girl from a poor Christian family. "She grew as one of us and was attending a convent school. In her 17th year she misconducted herself with a young boy who deserted her when she was 4 months pregnant. She has abused our trust and so they begged us to give her shelter in our home where she gave birth to a child and none of her relations came to visit her. In the 3rd month the baby died due to inanition as this mother refused to nurse the infant. A month later the adopted parents turned up and wished her to be discharged saying that she was to be married to a widower with one child who was a relation of theirs. We objected, if she was a Christian girl whether she would consent to marry a Hindu. She must give her consent. After 15 days the father and mother of the girl came with tears and confessed that the first story they gave was all false, that she was their eldest daughter. Now she was through, they will get her married to her relation. The girl was married and they visited our Ashram on more than two occasions and gave a feast to the Ashram. They are leading a happy life.

Here is a second case. The girl Y is 14 years of age, and a native of Bangalore. She is an orphan mother dying when she was a baby and the father dying 10 years ago. Her two brothers brought her up. The elder brother who married quaralled with the younger brother over a question of property and drove him out of the house. A few days later, finding a silver tray missing from the house he and his wife suspecting that, this girl has given it to him ill-treated her and told her to get the tray or get out of the house. She left the house at about

6 P.M. and went towards Cubbon Park. Standing near a lake she felt so desperate that she thought of committing suicide. Fear finally made her tell the whole story to 2 men who passed that way and beg for a place of asylum. They pitied her took her to the Hon. Secretary of the Ashram where she was given shelter. Some days later her elder brother felt compassion for her and feeling that he had wrongly suspected her came to the Ashram and apologised to her and took her back home. Now she is happily married.

One night the police brought a young person dressed in baggy khaki trousers and white shirt. Matron refused admission and said they do not admit grown up males. The police assured that this person is not a boy. On examination the Matron found that it was a girl disguised as a boy. On questioning her she said that she is an orphan and that she passed her S.S.L.C. and was taking her veterinary training at Hebbal. She said that her uncle, a Railway guard at Arsikere always dressed her and her sister in man's clothes. Her uncle left her in one foreman's house at city Railway Quarters. Once before she was arrested when she was found in the company of one Veerappa near a toddy shop and was charged to appear before the Magistrate but she absconded. The police were on the look out for her and found her again under immoral circumstances, in the same garb she was admitted into the Ashram on 16/4/57. Now steps are taken to trace her relations. She is a well behaving and active girl at present.

The 4th case, H was admitted on 16/10/54, aged 20, a native of Bombay, Brahmin by caste. She submitted that she was married to a man who was impotent. She said that she was married and her father deserted her mother with whom she was staying. An elder brother of hers supported them. She and her mother earned a pittance by threading flowers and garlands. She was seduced by a driver from Mysore and she ran away from Bombay with him accompanied by a tailor. The three stayed in Sivananda Hotel in Bangalore for 15 days. Then she stayed with the tailor for a month and a half. One day when they both were standing at a bus stop some men jeered at her and when a quarrel started, police interfered and found that she was living by prostitution. The police inspector got her admitted into the Ashram and tries to get her discharged and later a woman was sent who was dressed like a purdah woman and asked permission to speak to her sister. But the girl said that she had no relations at Bangalore and she would not go with her. The I.G.P. helped us to trace her people. When we informed her mother she came and took her back to Bombay. In this case it was clearly found that the police were implicated because one of them had put her in the Ashram as a temporary place of refuge, but we protested and got her admitted with Magistrate's Order.

The 5th case, N was admitted on 7/7/56, a native of Bangalore aged 16, Telegu. Her version was that her husband had a keep and illtreated her. She has run away from his brutal treatment. Her mother was in the Hospital suffering from Cancer. One day when she was returning from the hospital some rowdies molested her when the police came up and after

enquiry brought her to the Ashram. She has no father. After 2 months her husband and her maternal uncle came to take her home but she refused to go and preferred to remain in the Ashram and learn some useful industry. Later she was handed over to her husband after his undertaking to treat her well. Now she is living happily with her husband.

The Regulation of the Sex Instinct :

BY

Mr. Puran Chand, Advocate of Agra

The regulation of the sex instinct is a most important psychologic problem to be dealt with. It is connected with the first and the foremost evil tendency known as "KAMA" i e , Passion. The regulation of the sex instinct is connected with the regulation of region of the human heart. Out of the three types of law prevailing, namely State law, Social law and Divine Law, the Divine law has the best and the deepest connection with the working of the human heart. The State and the Social laws have also deep significance but they have only access to the things said and the deeds done. The deeds done have their origin in the realm of heart where Divine Law primarily applies. The belief in the omnipotence and omnipresence of the Divine Power puts an end to the idea of secrecy and the idea of forgiveness, if secrecy is avoided the sin is avoided, if there is implicit belief in Divine justice there can be no feeling of escape and nobody can dare do any wrong act. The regulation of the human heart including the regulation of the sex instinct is an important part of Moral Hygiene, to make moral hygiene effective and intensively and extensively applicable the whole life is to be regulated, what we eat, what we drink, what we do, where we sleep and how we sleep are all important factors. The question of recreation and entertainment is also an important factor to be dealt with in this connection. The reading and study of sex provoking novels and stories is to be avoided. The display of passion-exciting films and pictures has also to be stopped, specially for the young and persons of immature age and discretion. There should also be provision for sex education. Unfortunately at present the parents and the elders in the family feel shy in giving instructions about the regulation of sex instinct. In Educational Institutions also the teachers also do not feel inclined to give any hints for this regulation, rather it is considered against etiquette and culture to talk of the sex problem, though it is a most important part of human life. Out of the two instincts in human life the sex instincts is connected with the hunger instinct. The question of the hunger instincts is discussed from social and hygienic stand point. In the question of diet we have to keep in view both the stand points of taste and health, we have to be taught 'to eat to live and not live to eat,' If the question of diet is neglected we have

to recourse to digestives and tonics, palliatives and other things of this type. We have to think of vitamins and go on losing vitality. If the question of diet is not regulated it leads to bad health and loss of physical strength, if the sex instinct is not properly regulated it leads not only to the loss of health, the loss of wealth, but also leads to the loss of character, which is the very basis of human life. Rishi Dayanand, one of the greatest reformers of the twentieth century, has elaborately dealt with the sex problem in his immemorable book 'the Satyarth Prakash'. Though he was a Brahmachari and a Sanyasi, he wanted to regulate human life and for this regulation he thought it most important and essential to regulate sex instinct. The question of moral hygiene as indicated above is a question of the individual growth and formation. It cannot be tackled only from the economic and social view point. The question of prostitution and its removal is deeply connected with the individual character and the social atmosphere. Sexual relations must be considered as a most important part of human life and behaviour, this problem cannot be tackled by looking only at the surface and making suggestions from superficial angle of vision. The question of intoxication and meat diet has also to be kept in view. Co-education is also a provoking factor and has to be put stop to. The question of prostitution is the question of demand and supply. The habit of uttering filthy abuses and the habit of decorating drawing rooms with naked pictures has also to be put a stop to.

The legal aspect :-

This problem has to be dealt with from the legal stand point also. The law of the land is the best index of the culture of the Nation and the Country In I.P.C. sexual offences are dealt with in Sections 376, 377 and Sections 494 to 498. The offence of adultery has been tackled more from the auxidental stand point and not on the basis of ancient Vedic culture. A new section of adultery has to be added according to which sexual intercourse has to be penalized between those who are not connected by a valid marriage, in all other circumstances there is no question of any exception being made. At present in Section 497 and 498 the woman concerned is only a witness and not an accused, this is against the spirit of democracy and socialism. She should be given a status of a co-accused. It is strange that in bigamy she has to be punished. In adultery she goes scot-free. The law has to be amended and brought in conformity with the ancient culture. It is strange that in Section 498 the consent and connivance of the husband has been mentioned as an exonerating factor for the adulterer. On the other hand the husband also should be punished as an abettor. Section 376 has also to be suitably amended. Section 377 deals with unnatural offences, there should be strict law for the regulation of natural offence. The proper state is only the state of a married life as mentioned above. Somebody may object that if adultery is made a panel offence under all circumstances the evil may go under ground and assume different aspect ; It may reach the prohibited area ; it may also be said that it amounts to interference with individual liberty. All these objections are futile and they are always

raised when there is any question of introducing any reform. This cry is being heard in case of prohibition ; this was also raised in the case of gambling, The tenacity of the law-breaker is no ground for making the law lenient. It has to be enforced with greater vigour and care. If the law of the land is properly framed the question of moral hygiene specially as regards prostitution can be successfully tackled.

A Social Worker's Review of the Problem of Immoral Traffic in Women & Girls in Calcutta particular & in West Bengal in general.

BY

Sm. Meenakshi Sundaram, Social Welfare Officer, All Bengal Women's Union.

The degradation of the Socio-Economic condition of our country is a most important factor leading to the profession of prostitution and its practice on a large scale in Calcutta and elsewhere in West Bengal. An analysis of the events that vitally affected moral life in Calcutta during the last fifteen years would help in understanding the state of Immoral Traffic in the city. The following factors may be taken into consideration :—

1. War and the famine that followed, were responsible for the bringing about of a degeneration of the standard of living and of moral values.
2. The partition of Bengal aggravated the problem acutely, inasmuch as, it brought in its wake tremendous problems of refugee influx, unemployment, stark poverty, disease and death. It was in short "humanity uprooted." Cases were known, where unprotected girls were exploited by the members of their own families either for direct prostitution or camouflaged immoral existence. Young girls hailing from decent families went astray; a condition forced by want and privation, economic disaster being the root of the damaged social and moral order. In that prolonged exodus of refugees the good as well as the bad got mixed up. The poverty stricken melee drove hundreds of unprotected women into Calcutta and its innumerable brothels.
3. The cinem industry and the large scale publicity in the press, of the colourful life of a film star, all conspired to attract a number of young refugee women to crave

for "stardom", and the majority of the movie-mad girls were irretrievably lost. The passion of the unsophisticated village maid for a fashionable and glamorous life was the cause of her downfall.

4. Though prostitution is regarded as primarily an urban problem, a good percentage of women who practice it come from mainly rural areas. The age group of prostitutes falls between ten to twenty-nine. Besides, economic distress, mal-treatment, desertion, widowhood, certain social and religious practices in some communities, make it easier for the procurer to entice a girl away to brothels.
5. The dowry system, leading to large scale frustration of parents, reflects on the mental make-up of their daughters, who then learn to defy convention, and a spirit of revolt, not against an individual, but against the society as a whole, is aroused, but in the end it is the girls themselves who have to pay for it.
6. Calcutta being a cosmopolitan city with an international port, men are often obliged to live without their families, thus creating an ever increasing demand for brothels, and the inadequate housing for families in industrial areas and elsewhere make for a stunted moral growth that creates abnormalities and various sexual complexes.

The extent of the Prevalence of Prostitution.

This huge deep-rooted problem of prostitution has more or less extended throughout Calcutta, concentrating in good numbers in places like Sonagachi, Rambagan, Dhakuria, Terrettha Bazar, Park Street, Munshigunge, Kalighat and Brij Road areas. Besides these concentrated areas, there are many other unknown houses of ill-fame scattered throughout the city. Prostitution in villages is not so large as in the big cities. The prostitutes usually live in compact areas in towns, industrial zones, places of public assemblage such as haths, bazars, melas, and cinema houses. The brothels in Calcutta are cosmopolitan in nature, the girls being drawn from different parts of India. Many prostitutes get disillusioned and disgusted with their existence after a while, but it then becomes impossible for them to come out and start life afresh. The profession is sometimes rendered hereditary.

Traffic in Women and Minor Girls.

Prostitution in Calcutta is carried on, on a commercial scale. Women drawn from distant parts of the country are lodged in what are freely pointed out as brothels and they could not have found their way there unguided. Most of the prostitutes operate only under

the protection of the Badivallis, pimps and procurers. These persons take the lion's share in the earnings of the poor prostitutes. Sometimes the old prostitutes engage their minor daughters for the purposes of carrying on the trade. To counter this, action is taken under the Bengal Suppression of Brothels and Immoral Traffic Act/1933 and the Indian Penal Code. Action is also taken against the running of brothels and disorderly houses in Calcutta under the same Act.

The location of Houses of Vice-Registration and otherwise.

Prostitution is scattered almost throughout the city of Calcutta as has already been mentioned. Besides known brothel areas, it operates in hotels, boarding houses, massage clinics, clubs and in mansions. This Social malady is widespread and has no fixed area of operation. There is no system for registration or licence whatsoever, but the houses of ill-fame are declared from time to time as such and action is taken under the Bengal Suppression of Brothels and Immoral Traffic Act of 1933.

The Number of Prostitutes.

It is very difficult to give the exact number of brothels and prostitutes as no authentic report regarding the same is available. There are a couple of thousand of declared brothels and thousands of prostitutes, besides the undeclared and unknown houses where prostitution is carried on.

Facilities for V.D. Control.

The problem of Venereal Disease has received an almost universal recognition as an important public health problem throughout the civilised world. Among the factors contributing to the growth and spread of V.D., prostitution is by far the most pre-dominant. The total number of sufferers from V.D. being large, the attention of the reformers turned to the opening of V.D. Clinics and adequate treatment of the disease. It was contended that an evil which could not be rooted out must be controlled. Leading medical practitioners pleaded for adequate moral and financial support by the State and by the people towards combating V.D. in the country, with the result that in the Directorate of Medical Services of the West Bengal State, a Special Branch has been set up to deal with Moral and Social Hygiene.

There are nearly a dozen clinics in different Government Hospitals, besides a dozen non-Government V.D. Clinics.

There are nearly 30 to 40 V.D. Clinics for both men and women in the following 14 districts :—

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Howrah | 2. 24-Parganas |
| 3. Hooghly | 4. Burdwan |
| 5. Bribhum | 6. Bankura |
| 7. Murshidabad | 8. Malda |
| 9. Midnapore | 10. Nadia |
| 11. West Dinajpur | 12. Darjeeling |
| 13. Jalpaiguri | 14. Cooch Behar |

There is a Serological Laboratory in the Calcutta Medical College Hospital (Blood Bank).

Social Workers are attached to the V. D. Clinics and carry on the following duties :—

- (a) Educate the patients on the deceptive nature of the disease and on its dangerous effect on the unborn.
- (b) Impress on them that the reduction of V.D. would cause a sharp fall in the number of the crippled and the disabled, thereby saving the loss of working hours and early pensions. In addition, it would greatly contribute towards bringing happiness at domestic, community and national levels.
- (c) Establish such friendly relations with patients that they are induced to continue in taking treatment till cured.
- (d) Explain to the married patients the necessity of having their conjugal partners medically examined.
- (e) Give instruction in sex hygiene when necessary.
- (f) Follow up defaulting cases.
- (g) Trace sources of contact.
- (h) Visit brothels areas and impress upon the inmates the necessity of medical examination and treatment.

The Social Workers also visit the bustee areas and with the help of magic lanterns, lecture on the need for treatment of V. D. During the year 1956-57, 3,038 follow-up visits were paid to the houses of patients. The Social Workers are given training in the All India Institute of Hygiene.

Rescue Scheme, if any.

Minor girls are rescued from brothels under the existing Bengal Suppression of Brothels and Immoral Traffic Act/33. There are also rescue schemes in the New All India Act

known as "The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act 1947". But this Act has not been enforced in all the States of India as yet. On the findings of the Social and Rural Hygiene Advisory Committee, sponsored by the Central Social Welfare Board, it is envisaged to provide long range rescue schemes.

Facilities for Reform and Rehabilitation.

Reformation and rehabilitation of prostitutes is a huge problem. This is vitally connected with the Social Standards of life and it is receiving the attention of the higher authorities.

In Calcutta there is a Government controlled "Rescue Home" and six private 'Homes' to shelter rescued girls. In this connection it would not be out of place to mention that the All Bengal Women's Union since 1932 has been specialising in sheltering and rehabilitating some of these unfortunate women. The first efforts of this voluntary organization were directed to focussing the public attention to the need of an effective Act to combat this evil of traffic in Women and Children and to arouse the social consciousness of the populace to the passing of the Bengal Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act of 1933 and the Home for rescued women was opened after this Act was passed.

The question of rehabilitation can hardly be dealt with unless there is full employment, economic development, social justice and a general raising of the standard of living of the people as a whole. By a general re-installation of the necessity of practising the basic principles according to which the life of a community is patterned, it is expected that healthier social and moral order would be established. Religious and ethical values can only then be emphasized to create an uniformity in the diversified standards of our people.

Finally, it may be stated that the abolition of brothels cannot be brought about immediately or even in the near future. It will take a long time to mitigate and finally abolish the evil. But a start should be made early. What is wanted is the moral support and the active co-operation of the public, for no State can introduce such reforms in the social sphere, if the people are apathetic or disposed to unhelpful criticisms only.

In closing, I wish to thank the Inspector General of Police, the Deputy Commissioner Detective Department, the Social Welfare Section of the Health Services of the West Bengal State, the State Social Welfare Advisory Board and Dr. Souren Ghose, for their valuable help in enabling me in compiling these notes.

Evolution of Motherhood and Monogamic Marriage.

BY

Dr. S.B. Anklesaria, M.D. (Bombay), Ahmedabad.

At this crucial phase in human history when the conquest of time and space is well near the Scientist's realization ; when the so-called educated man has fast lost faith in old dogmas and conventions and yet is unable to substitute the vacuum thus created by scientific thinking : when scientific knowledge and achievements have far out-stepped man's ability to control and guide human behaviour to suit the changes in human society ; when parents have failed to guide their children and education has not done enough to fill in the void ; when in spite of two devastating wars and the possibility of human annihilation if one more came, man feels incapable of preventing the same ; at such a crucial phase anything that might be of use to guide human behaviour appears most useful.

We in the East who have the good fortune to have given world teachers more than once ; we in this vast sub-continent who so recently witnessed the physically frail frame and yet psychically mighty form of Gandhiji ; Wherein 'Vatsayana' wrote "Kama Sutra" nearly two thousand years ago ; we in India should feel a special responsibility in this arduous task.

The idea of this little theme is to show the evolutionary change that has resulted in human motherhood, the main differences between the two sexes, and how, for a human mother monogamic marriage is the true culmination of this evolutionary change. How monogamic marriage is an attempt on the part of two different individuals to agree to tolerate their differences and resulting difficulties in the interest of society. How the human mother as a central fountain head can be most suited to work as the source of truth and tolerance which can then emanate to the rest of society to sanctify and rehabilitate the same.

People in the west are alarmed at the rising divorce rates and desertions, falling birth rates, rising abortion rates and illegitimate birth rates, rise in prostitution, promiscuity and venereal diseases,

Growth of cities, decline of religious influence, alcohol ; dance halls, yellow journalism, obscene literature and art, and movies have come in for blame.

One has to remember the tremendous social change that industrial revolution on the one hand and spread of democratic ideas on the other have brought about, a considerable contact between the two sexes who have begun to give up the reserve between them which existed before. To suit these changing circumstances and to prevent harm occurring to the individuals unaccommodated to these changes, the teachers and the preachers, the parents and guardians, the Doctors and Psychologists and many others have to face the responsibility of understanding and imparting the necessary knowledge ; not to excite sexual passion but to control and guide it. *In the primary schools and till the boy or girl grows to age every teacher will have to show a proper attitude in tackling the child.* In High Schools and Colleges this must continue but special classes by experts could bring about a better understanding so that the youth is saved from so many disasters he may meet with.

I would now like to stress the special significance of understanding the purpose of evolution.

The evolution of man from lower animal is a process which needs to be well understood. From the Unicellular organisms to the multicellular multipurpose ones with special organs of reproduction, there is a gradually increasing responsibility of the female organism till the development of the mammals.

The male had only to evolve out organs for the deposition of the sex cells and the male organs thus were evolved out much earlier in the scale of evolution.

For the female organism it was a much more difficult problem, the evolution involving not only the establishment of structures for the formation of the female sex cells and the optimum condition for their fertilization by the male, but also for the embedment and the nourishment of the product resulting thereby, over a prolonged period of forty weeks end its subsequent expulsion within about a score of hours. By a series of completely co-operated stages of evolution, the foetal and maternal tissues have struck a balance in the human being which serves to supply the need of the foetus (future child) to its best advantage. The maternal tissues have necessarily had to sacrifice a good deal.

The human female, alone, menstruates regularly ; the higher apes are the only exception in animals. The haemochorial type of deeply penetrating placenta is equally exceptional to women.

The woman has to carry the complicated human womb and the ovary with so many glands of internal secretion governing and co-operating with it, she harbours the young one in

such a close contact with her blood stream for so long a period as nine months and has to face the ordeal of expelling the human child with its rounded head, and even the erect posture of man has made the supports of the pelvic organs so vulnerable. All this that man may assume the human form in fast pursuit of the Maker. But for the sacrifice of the female organism in general and the human female in particular, all this would have been impossible. While science has traced this process of evolution, the question arises, is this a senseless, purposeless process going on in animal life or is there a design, a purpose behind it all and if so what is the purpose ?

If we trace the process of evolution we find that gradually the animal has developed senses making him aware of his environment till at last the human being is not only able to see and hear and taste and feel, but has become intensely conscious and desirous of searching for the cause behind all that he realises through his senses. That is the most outstanding quality of the human cerebral hemisphere. Even as a scientist, therefore, one cannot deny some great drive that is taking matter towards life and life towards higher and higher forms till through the human being with that keen desire to search for truth the drive is trying to reveal itself. Science cannot deny this deliberate purposeful drive and the true theologian never depicts God as an individual in the ordinary sense. With that the difference between the two vanishes. If Atma is to be construed as a particle of the Parmatma, how should science deny its existence. This I suggest is the law of Asha Vashista as put forth by my revered father in his writings on Zoroastrian prayers, the law of deliberate and purposeful evolution. To achieve this purpose society needs to be sufficiently organised to subjugate all human efforts toward it. This purpose can be best achieved by improving the mental efficiency of human individuals and improving the behaviour of the individual so that it does not interfere with the work of those who may be engaged in the search for truth. Mental efficiency can be improved by giving every individual free education to the extent that his or her mental faculties demand and by putting all surplus resources of the State at the disposal of those engaged in the search for truth-research workers in all fields.

It is in the sphere of human behaviour that a proper understanding and conduct of sex life would go a very long way in re-establishing human society on a lasting basis. Monogamic marriage should be construed as the culmination of the evolutionary process in sex relationship. A voluntary effort to control the sexual impulse and subjugate it to achieve the aforesaid purpose of life. It is a union between two differing individuals who knowing their differences and resulting difficulties agree to tolerate them and accommodate to them. From the time that the male germ cell was evolved the male represents active penetration, the female sex is a relatively passive and calm individual, with the development of the human mother every particle of the female organism is tuned to and subjected to the powerful maternal instinct to harbour an individual quite half of it being of her mate and that in so close a contact with her

blood for full nine months; for the male the sexual impulse is merely a gratification of the powerful sexual passion. Byron has well said "man's love is of his life a thing apart, 'tis woman's whole existence".

The male represents all aggressive action, reasoning and intelligence being utilized also aggressively ; he is egocentric. He is polygamous by instinct, the sexual act does not affect him so much and hence promiscuity does not deprave him to the extent it would affect a woman. He has accepted monogamy to suit the higher ideal in his better half and often falters and fails in it.

The female represents a sort of potential energy and thus a passive resistance ; nature has endowed her with the higher sense of intuition which makes her aware of danger to her purer nobler self in a few seconds while man's reasoning and intelligence may take so much more. She is altero centric. As in motherhood, so in all life, she finds pleasure through giving and sacrifice, through other's pleasure even if it meant some pain to her. The sexual act to her is an embodiment of motherhood which in the human form means delivering the whole physical body so completely, for so long a time to an individual half that of her mate, she gives so much she can only give herself to but one individual. Promiscuity deprives her of her whole personality and depraves her completely. If she is unable to achieve her goal of motherhood she best can succeed in sublimating her maternal instinct into love of others as much for her own progeny.

The problem is that of elevating the masculine to the feminine and not that of lowering the feminine to the masculine, as some so-called sex reformers suggest, by giving so-called sex freedom to the female. Education to arrange for a proper choice of the partner with the idea that marriage shall be an ever lasting union by an all-out attempt to accommodate to each other is the crying need of the day and not so-called reforms to make divorces easy. All guidance to avoid sex difficulties and misunderstanding is essential in an all-out attempt to bring back tolerance in the very basic relation between man and woman. Education of would-be husbands and wives will go a great way in this ; no fears, no hiding of truths, a sincere effort to understand sex relationship as much as one learns to do anything else in life is quite essential. A better and happier home with the mother as a fountain-head of that spring of human tolerance from whose glorious heights the stream may follow to the street, to the town, to the country and to the world. Who can better be qualified for this than we in the East who have led mankind so often before towards the "Unknown Reality" as put by our revered Aurobindo Ghosh ? Let us not run in our frenzy towards the Western divorced and broken homes, let us sow the seeds of a happy home even a happy joint family reconstructed from the traditions of so many thousand years, re-given through the gospel of non-violence, truth and tolerance of the greatest human being of our age. Let the law of purposeful evolution be the guiding star for our edifice of Sarvodaya, let us see to it that matter rises

towards life, and all life rise higher and higher towards its Maker so anxiously awaiting to reveal Himself : let the darkness and slavery end, let us spread the light throughout the vast continent of India and through it to the World.

Sex Education

BY

Dr. Mrs. D.D. Chacko M.D., D.T.M & H. (Lond.) Delhi.

The Educational Sub-committee of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India is glad to report that since the Jaipur Conference, we have been able to compile and publish a Handbook for Students and a Teacher's Manual on Sex Education, selling at Rs. 1 and As. 8 respectively. In Delhi University, with the aid of six experienced lecturers, not all doctors, several colleges have had extra-curricular courses on Social Hygiene through informal groups of about twenty-five students each, usually by evening talks weekly for six meetings. In this way most of the hostel residents have been reached. If a greater number of experienced persons, ready and willing to talk on such matters; were available, this service could be extended. The questions the young people ask show that they are interested, and appreciative of the efforts made to increase their knowledge and their ability to face life in all its personal and social aspects.

Two years ago in Delhi University and informal Counselling Service was also established, with a room in the Arts Faculty Building, where three afternoons a week advisers are available for those who want to talk over problems with them. This year two staff members in each college have also been appointed to whom students could feel free to go without a sense of imposition on adult time and sympathy. Leaflets have been issued, entitled "You Are Not Alone", informing students of their local counsellors, the Counselling Service in the University, and the World University Health Service. Consequently more students have come for help to their own staff members, and some of these have been referred to the central service.

Several two-hour afternoon seminars have been held for the staff counsellors, consisting of a talk on the problems of adolescents, followed by a break for coffee and informal conversations, then by a general discussion period. Delhi has its difficulties in time and distance, so the attendance has not been as large as the excellence of the talks deserved, but those who have made the effort to come have felt they were well worthwhile. Counselling is not merely

on sex problems. Fears of the present and of the future, and a sense of inadequacy come up much more frequently for discussion than problems related to sexual urges and behaviour. Vocational guidance is fortunately available through the kind services of the Central Institute of Education.

The factual material for sex education is now so well-documented that no parent or teacher who expects to deal with the question of instruction should feel at a loss for definite information. There are innumerable books available, charts, film strips and cinemas, so that anyone who wants to familiarize himself with the facts of reproduction can readily do so. That this information is not yet reaching many of our young people, either through their homes or their schools and colleges, is still a matter of concern for our Association. Incorporation of the Reproductive System into the curriculum of Hygiene or Biology in our middle schools, extra-curricular lectures to college students and other groups, and instruction of parents and teachers should be encouraged.

But the first point I wish to stress in this brief paper today is that sex education is not merely a presentation of the relevant facts. When the Education Sub-committee first began to function, questionnaires were sent to all the universities of our country asking what was already being done along this line through their colleges, and what in their opinion should be done. Among the several replies there were two which stated flatly that information should be presented without any moral or other implications ; one went to the other extreme and said that the moral and social aspects should be presented without getting into the embarrassments of anatomy and physiology. Most parents, teachers and social workers, would, I presume, opine that the physical facts must indeed be presented, truth being the best bulwark against evil misinformation, but we would also agree that mere information without some discussion of the personal and social psychological adjustments involved would be unfair, not only to the student who is usually already full of bewilderment and uncertainty about how he should behave as an adult, but also to the community in which perforce he lives.

Experience in America, where they have done a great deal of intensive sex education, has shown that mere facts are not enough. Obviously the facts of chemistry have not saved mankind from the fears that drive us to use the atom bomb ! No doubt the facts of reproduction may have kept a few girls from the unfounded dread of an illegitimate pregnancy through being crushed up against a strange man in a subway train crowd, a few boys from fear of an insanity which would be precipitated by masturbation, but by and large, mere information does not enable a young person to cope successfully with his or her urges, to meet situations in an adult manner, to adjust to the many reciprocities of marriage with the minimum of frustration and friction. As Judson T. Landis of the University of California says, "We are seeing more and more that sex facts are a very small part of essential sex education and that sex must be considered in its relation to the total personality."

Although now-a-days I find it difficult to get time to read novels, it seems to me that the modern ones which I have read are dealing with two main problems : What is the most worthwhile activity in life that is, what should we try to attain at all costs ? and secondly, what is the optimum relationship between men and women ? Both these questions have a direct bearing on the main theme of our present conference, namely, the problem of prostitution. Most of the modern writers seem to come to the conclusion that in the last analysis, the golden apple belongs to Aphrodite, the Goddess of Love. At any rate, the general trend of magazine stories, cinemas, advertisements and all, is towards glorifying sexual attraction and sexual love, and towards implying that apart from this, the personality remains unfulfilled. Granted the importance of sex in life, nevertheless where is our society heading if the highest ideal we have is that of "sexual success", whatever that may really be ? The thing that distressed me most when I visited America after twenty-two years in India, was the feeling, apparently prevalent throughout all strata of society, that if a woman didn't get married, she had "missed the bus" and was obviously an inconsequential personality. Even in marriage, where satisfying sexual relationships are of course of great importance, there are other factors in successful adjustment and getting along together. Many a couple, well-adjusted sexually, have gone on the rocks in other aspects of their relationships. Other couples by satisfactory adjustments in other ways have been able to remain happily married despite sexual incompatibility. "And so they married and lived happily ever after" may be a satisfying termination to a fairy tale, but it is unrealistic in everyday life. A successful marriage, like an adequate personality, is built up by constant daily effort.

The second problem is one that dates back to Adam & Eve. As one male whimsically put it, "The women, God bless them ! We can't live with them and we can't live without them." With the "emancipation" of women, their traditional subservience to men and their essential role of femininity is being seriously disturbed. This has had a severe impact on both men and women and the family. The very excellent journal put out in America by the National Council on Family relations, entitled "Marriage and Family Living", has a fine article in its August 1957 issue on "The New Burdens of Masculinity", presenting the acute dilemma of the modern male who is patiently bewildered about his role in relation to the modern female. The modern female herself is very uncertain about her proper role. The current idol is the woman who can manage a successful career and lose none of her feminine attraction nor ability to satisfy as a wife and mother. Personally I suspect that there are very few women who are successfully combining career and matrimony. We do need to give our young people more preparation through psychological insight into themselves and others for the complex relationships of modern life. We are not in a position to state categorically what is the optimum relationship between men and women, but we can and should help our young people to face their problems intelligently and in the right spirit,

I hear that in America they now have over 1100 men and women teaching courses on Marriage and the Family as part of accredited college work. They are probably five times that number dealing with the problems of family life on other levels. I am not saying that marriages in America are happier than those in India in consequence. I am trying to say that we should pay more attention as an Association to building up a sound family life. In an article on "A Century of Declining Paternal Authority" by J. M. Moge of the University of Oxford, in the August 1957 issue of "Marriage and Family Living" mentioned above, there is this significant paragraph on p. 234: "During the Russian revolution the Bolsheviks stated that marriage was a purely personal affair of no interest to other parties and declared the family an obsolete, bourgeois survival. By 1926, chaos over desertions and divorces forced the state to re-introduce the civil registration of marriages. A new temper prevailed by 1936, when the family was said to be a social unit whose permanence and harmony were essential to the survival of the country. Measures to strengthen the family unit, to protect the mother and children against arbitrary divorce, and to enforce alimony payments were passed in 1936 and again in 1946." If even the Russians, on the basis of hard experience, have come to the conclusion that the family is the stabilizing unit of society, how much more should we profit by their experiments and devote every effort to building up a wholesome family pattern.

Finally, more men and women of experience, understanding, and desire to help others to grow in perception and ability are needed in this work of instruction and counselling. The preparation of our manuals on sex education, though in the hands of a committee, was eventually done almost entirely by two women members. The 500 Teacher's Manuals are practically sold out. A man or two really should help with revising the second edition. In our present conference itself, it is a matter of regret that we have so few men delegates, for the Association needs their reactions and their point of view. It is incumbent on all of us to help young people to look at life and its relationships with clear eyes and sincere hearts. This is not the responsibility merely of the teacher of Social Hygiene, but of teachers of every subject, of every parent, of every older person, who by precept or unwitting example indicates to the younger generation what are acceptable or successful standards and behaviour. This is true sex education.

Educational Aspects of Moral and Social Hygiene Programmes in India.

BY

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Traditionally the programmes for Moral and Social Hygiene have been closely associated with Prostitution and venereal disease control. As such they reflect the changing attitude of the society towards these problems.

The early attacks on prostitution and associated vices were directed mainly towards their regulation and control, thereby revealing society's fear and anxiety about its effects on one hand, and acceptance of its existence, as inevitable, on the other. There was very little awareness or understanding of the complex socio-economic, cultural and psychological forces that drive young women to this vice.

Then come the shift towards the abolition of brothels and its very 'modus operandi' namely the procurers, the pimps, the brothel keepers, the landlords, etc., who thrive on this human exploitation. This shift no doubt signifies a great advance upon the early approach and attitude. For, it reflects the growing social conscience against the evil that strikes at the very root of human integrity and well being and perpetuates the moral, social and spiritual degradation of the participants. The magic of its inevitableness could no longer allude the people. And yet, the programme developments were greatly coloured by the naive faith in the effectiveness of legislations in solving the problems associated with these vices. Subsequent experiences have fortunately shown that mere legislative measures, no matter how comprehensive and effective they may be, are not enough. For they can go no farther than the social and psychological readiness of the people to accept them.

Once the problem is looked upon not as a 'necessary evil' but a sign of our moral, social and psychological backwardness the programme for its removal will have to be comprehensive enough to cover not only the legislative aspect, nor, the treatment and rehabilitation aspect, but also the educational aspect. Development of vigilance, care and after care services

for detection, treatment and rehabilitation of women in 'moral danger' as visualised under our Second Five Year Plan, form a very important and essential part of the total programme. But like legislation it covers only one aspect. In fact, greater emphasis needs to be placed upon development of those programmes and services directed towards the removal of those very conditions, material, moral and social, that perpetuate the existence of such women. This calls for a development of yet another and more important aspect of the programme, aiming at strengthening the individual, the family and the community through preventive family, women and child welfare services such as Maternity and Child Health, Family Planning, Child Guidance Clinics, Economic Aid etc., on one hand, and education for a healthy, happy and harmonious family and community on the other. Once the importance of hastening the process of transformation in the society's approach and attitude, towards not merely the problem of prostitution, but a larger problem of sex-marriage and community adjustments is recognised, more and more emphasis will have to be placed upon development of a comprehensive educational programme for moral and social hygiene. Such a programme by its very nature, should permeate through all our welfare and educational schemes. The tendency to tackle each problem separately as it comes into focus of public attention, so characteristic of our welfare developments has to be overcome, and a greater integration and co-ordination of efforts will have to be achieved.

The need for integrating the educational programmes for moral and social hygiene with the Family Planning and other welfare services, such as child guidance clinic, maternity and child welfare centre, etc., is being recognised at least at the theoretical level, in the recently published report of the Advisory Committee on Social and Moral Hygiene, appointed by the Central Social Welfare Board. However, the practical aspect of the ways and means of achieving this integration, not only with our existing Family, women and child welfare services, but also with our school, and higher educational programmes, has still to be considered, by all those directly or indirectly connected with these programmes. Even to gain a clear perspective of the educational aspect of the Moral and Social Hygiene programme, the goals or targets to be achieved, the methods and approach to be used but also about the very use of the terms.

The phrase, 'Education for Moral and Social Hygiene' has been understood differently at different times. In the past it mainly signified the development of programmes imparting information with regard to the dangers of prostitution and venereal diseases. The major purpose underlying the early education programme was to instil fear against these vices, or to impart information about them. However with growing understanding of the problem and of the factors contributing to its perpetuation, this earlier purpose began to be looked upon as too narrow and negative to cover the positive aspects of healthful living. Therefore a more inclusive and positive terms, such family life education or 'character education' etc.,

are being preferred. The programme as envisaged by these new terms, no longer begins and ends with imparting of information regarding the measures of prostitution and V. D. control, nor are they circumscribed by mere giving of 'moral lessons', as the traditional connotation of the term 'moral education', seem to imply. Such a programme has to be as broad as life itself. Its purpose is to prepare the growing child at every stage of his development, in home, at school and in the community, for a healthy happy and harmonious living within oneself and in relationship to others. The growth of his new attitude and approach towards the task of preparing the child for life could be better understood, if viewed against our present day background. The human race today has attained almost a peak of material success and yet the human life is no more a life of harmony, love and faith but one of perpetual conflict and bewilderment caused by constant contradictions between the ideals and the actuals in our day to day living.

In our enthusiasm to rid ourselves of traditional religious dogmatism and biogotromy, we seem to overemphasise the role of secularism in our educational systems. And yet, the influence of religious teachings can never be completely ignored even in the most so called advanced society. No matter, what traditions influence our idea of the child's training or what attitude we assume towards the beliefs and faith of our fore-fathers, our children can never escape altogether the influence of religion, nor can they remain completely untouched by it. We may ignore it, we may even laugh at it as superstition or ignorance, but still, it will have for good or ill, a tremendous moulding influence on the personality development of our children. We need not turn to religion as an escape but as something we can look at with our mind and heart, in terms of the combined experiences of the generations gone by. To accept the universe with earned knowledge awed respect is essential our emotional health and stability. The moral education, whether formal or informal, whether carried out in home, at school or in the community should imbibe the spirit rather than the form of right living. It has to be constantly geared to the individual child's needs and level of development. For example, to a child of four or six, abstract concepts like truth, love, virtue, have no meaning. He has to learn their meaning through the concrete experience of living. The role of our myths, legends, epic stories, etc. can hardly be ignored in this task of imbibing the spiritual and ethical values in the child. Like the language of dream, their language is symbolic and hence universal. A story of Rama, symbolising the great ethical principles of 'one wife,' 'one word', 'one aim' told in simple language suited to the child's level of understanding, is likely to stir him to greater depth, than any amount of direct moralising through moral lessons, or display of moral 'sayings' on the walls, in class room or at home. For, the child's mind can transcend the limitations of time and space. To him Rama and Sita are no longer mere mythical figures but the living embodiment of his inner experiences. Thus helping children to incorporate the essential values of our way of life, enabling them to achieve a synthesis between the old

and the new, between the ideals and the realities, should form an essential part of our education for moral and social hygiene. It is futile to merely blame the external conditions such as growth of large cities, commercialised entertainments, 'yellow literature,' 'obscene art' cheap movies etc. for all our problems around sex, marriage and family living. They no doubt influence the young mind, and part of our educational programme, have to be directed towards the removal of their unhealthy impact. However, greater emphasis need to be placed upon helping children gain experience in healthy social living, which necessarily includes information and guidance with respect to sex. The homes on which the society usually depends, to impart this guidance and information have generally lagged behind in making adjustments to changing conditions. Often the parents simply do not know how and when to impart education in this important and vital area. Many of them have been straightening out their own twisted attitudes, on the subject, developed through ignorance, false information of their own personal unhappy experiences. The parents as well as teachers have discovered that even when they knew the 'facts' and the right words, in which to give them, they were quite unable to talk about them to their children. They could not speak about sex and reproduction, about standards and ideals of sex behaviour. For, the old fashioned taboos on which they had been raised, blocked their every honest effort to help. These failures on the part of parents and even teachers, demonstrate the fallacy of starting sex education at adolescence. As, by that time many of them are already conditioned to secrecy, evasion or reckless defiance of conventions. If we are to break this vicious circle, sex education must begin in fancy, and for that we need to catch the parents while they are still young and ready to learn. Sex education, involves more than instructions and sex guidance means more than teaching rules. What the young boys and girls, or even adults need is guidance and right orientation, rather than mere technical information. They need sympathetic help in understanding themselves, in developing self assurance and in interpreting the personal and social life that faces them. Both instructions and guidance should therefore form an essential part of any programme for moral and social hygiene. The instructions usually aim at giving proper understanding of physical development, mental health, V.D., psychological phases of human relations, etc. while the guidance should seek to cultivate attitudes and patterns of conduct related to sex and thereby build up a sound basis for a healthy marriage, family and community living. Such a programme development may be guided by some of the following principles :

1. Sex is a constant factor in individual behaviour and development and in human relationship. Hence sex education should be a continuous and lifelong process.

2. The child's attitudes, towards his body and its functions or towards others, normally begins to develop in the home. Since, every home, cannot meet this responsibility adequately and effectively, besides educating parents, it is also essential to develop a delibe-

rately planned educational process in human relations, personal adjustments, and social well being, not only through information and instructions, but also through a variety of guided social experiences at home, in school and the community. Talks, lectures, audio-visual aids, as well as individual guidance and counselling form an essential part of the instruction and guidance.

3. *The meaning of sex, for a growing child, is constantly changing. Any intended education programme, must therefore fit the individual's changing needs and requirements. Such education which helps the individual attain maturity and accept responsibilities of manhood and womanhood, must by its very nature, continue beyond formal school years and must include much more than the schools can give.*

4. Education for moral and social education should not be a speciality of a few but a responsibility of all. It is not only the business of the home or the priests, but also of the doctors, the health officers, social workers, and educators. It is entirely a community's business. The task of social and moral education, again, cannot be split up into the separate bits, each to be handled by itself, for it involves a joint responsibility. Such a programme, for its effective implementation, envisages the existence of skilled workers. We are increasingly recognising the value of having our boys and girls under the direction and guidance of mature and well-balanced persons, skill in the task of meeting their responsibilities towards them as teachers health visitors, marriage counsellors, recreation leaders etc. However, mere age, experience, or even training is no criteria for their inner stability and maturity. These have to be judged in terms of their own life adjustments. A development of criteria for selection of such personnel, and a programme of their training, is another area in this aspect, requiring considerable thinking and planning. Both inservice training and training at professional level needs to be carefully developed. The effective use of seminars, workshops, study groups, refresher courses, etc. to enable parents, teachers, and others, working with children and adolescents, to develop better understanding and sounder attitudes can, hardly be ignored. At the same time our regular curriculum for the training of teachers, doctors, nurses, social workers, etc. needs to be geared more and more to imparting proper instruction and guidance in this important area so as to enable them to share their responsibilities with others in the task of helping children to develop proper understanding and right attitudes.

Not by censoring what we disapprove, or by crying aloud in moral indignation, but by jointly working towards a common goal of preparing our children for a healthy, happy and harmonious family and community living can we successfully, tackle, our problems around sex, marriage or even prostitution and V. D.

I have tried to place before you, through this paper, the educational aspect of Moral and Social Hygiene Programmes in India as I have understood and visualise it. They are by no means the only aspects, nor are they indisputable. While placing them before you I hope that they will stimulate discussion and contribute to your deliberations in developing a concrete, and comprehensive programme in this important area.

Problem of Venereal Diseases Control

BY

Dr. W. Mathur Delhi.

Venereal Diseases are among the most widely prevalent infections in India. It is however not yet possible to give an estimate of their prevalence with any pretence of accuracy. A rough idea of the extent of any morbidity is generally made from the statistical returns from hospitals and dispensaries all over the country. The mode of submission of these statistics from the States, however leaves much to be desired and such information is neither complete nor up to date. Most of the calculations made on the subject are therefore based on the observations of different workers, and on a few surveys made in various areas. Thus total attendance in V.D. clinics in East Bengal, as reported to an appalling figure of 22 millions, while the percentage of expectant mothers with positive Serological tests, attending urban centres of Calcutta came to 5.3%. In Bombay routine tests carried out in out patients department of a General Hospital showed 12% cases positive for syphilis, while the rural rate is estimated to be about 4% (Jungulwala). In Madras the rate of infection among the expectant mothers at the antenatal centres was found to vary from 6.3 to 7.2%. The average rate of hospital attendance in whole of Madras State was found to be 531 per lakh of population, while in Madras city alone the infection was 2347 per lakh of population.

In Delhi, hospital return for 1956 indicate an incidence of 1810 per lakh of population. The proportion of male to female cases was six to one which shows that there is a vast reservoir of infection, which remains untouched by present control measures, and keeps the infection alive.

The routine tests carried out among expectant mothers at the Child Welfare Centres of New Delhi gave positive Serological tests in 6% of cases. There is no reason to think that conditions in other large cities would be any different from this. So far as Himalayan regions are concerned, the survey carried out in Himachal Pradesh by the special team of World Health Organisation team estimated the incidence of Venereal Diseases among the general population of the Ghund tract ranging between 15 to 50% (cutler), while observations made by experts in Kashmir State suggest a prevalence of no less than 50% in the hilly tracts and of 20.25% in

the valley. These are alarming figures, particularly in so far as these are an index of the entire hilly and sub Himalayan tracts from Kashmere to Assam having a population of 224 lakhs, subject to the same conditions of living, customs, habits, poverty and illiteracy. Even on a modest estimate the effected population at any one time would be more than 30 lakhs in these regions along.

Among the industrial population also the surveys reveal disturbingly high incidence. In a colliery in Eastern India the V.D. incidence was found as high as 40% (Jungalwala). In the employees of the Bhakra Nangal Dam of Punjab, a rate of 5% was encountered. It is also apprehended, that the rapidly increasing tempo of industrialization during the 2nd Five Year Plan may bring in its trail a rise in these infectious diseases also, as a large proportion of the labour come to towns to seek employment from the rural areas, leaving their families behind. This not only exposes the labour to these diseases, but the latter is also instrumental in spreading the infection in to the rural, as this labour consists mostly of a floating population.

Juvenile syphilis is yet another form of disease which manifests itself among the child population of 2-10 years of age. This has been discovered mostly prevalent in a section of low illiterate and unskilled labour population, living in large urban areas in the worst slums in conditions of extreme dirt, squalor, and over crowding and shocking personal Hygiene (Rajam & Rangiah) or perhaps only living on city road pavements. The poor juvenile section of this population lives in a state of almost complete nudity, using common eating and drinking utensils and sleeping huddled together with others in common bedding. These children may acquire the infection through a sexual contact and perhaps also through perverted sex play with an older child or an adult. Rajam and Rangiah have reported as many as 385 children between the age of 7 months and 10 years found suffering from acquired syphilis due to contact infection.

Bearing all the above in mind one is drawn to the conclusion as suggested by Dr. Rajam, that taking the case of syphilis alone, for which survey have mostly been conducted, there is a considerable reservoir of infection syphilis on the scale of about 2000 to 4000 per lakh of population in urban and semi urban areas alone, and that a prevalence rate of 4 to 5% for the whole of India may be a conservative estimate of the status of venereal diseases among the teeming population of our country, while gonorrhoea claims approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ to half of the above, mean that no less than 18 million people of the total population are at any time victim of these foul infections.

As regards the ravages of these infections on the victims, these are too well known to this august assembly to need any repetition. It would however bear mentioning that that an analysis of morbidity and mortality of infants born of syphilitic mothers showed that seven out of 10 children born to such untreated mother are either still born or diseased. The stigmata of congenital syphilis among those who survive are frequently so crippling as to make them expensive problems for the parents and unproductive burdens on Society throughout their

lives. It is also one of the chief causes of blindness among children and adults, and Rajam estimates that about 1/5 of the total blindness in children and adults in India can be directly attributed to neglected and untreated syphilis. A study carried out in Govt. ophthalmic Hospital Madras showed that 17.8% out of a group 1534 patients were suffering from eye-manifestations as the result of syphilitic infection, while it amounts for 12-15% of the total organised diseases of the heart and blood vessels. Gonorrhoea is also chiefly responsible for the blindness of the new born.

Such are the problems which hold out a challenge to the thinking people. The problem is vast and complicated and though it has its roots in the socio economic factors of the affected population, its control is essentially a public health problem affecting the health and welfare of no less than 18 million inhabitants of the country by diseases which are of the nature of infection diseases. We thus have to take into account and deal with the different factors. Such as:—(1) Reservoir of infection (2) Mode of transmission (3) Raising the resistance of the population at risk.

The reservoir of infection in these diseases being the infected human being, it requires the greatest ingenuity to forestall and counteract the hundreds of subtle ways in which this elusive reservoir renders the control operations ineffective. On the other hand this human factor, can also afford the greatest chance of success, if approached in a scientific and tactful manner. As the prostitution is considered to be the hard core of infective reservoir it has attracted greatest attention from the Social as well as scientific workers. Its control has diverse aspects legal, social, educational, moral and public health. As these aspects are being taken up by other eminent experienced workers, I shall not go into them except to suggest methods for dealing with the public health aspect. It may however in this connection be pointed out that the V.D. control section of East Bengal while analysing the occupational status of infected persons found that out of 9545 infected women, who were questioned, only 1444 or 15.6% were designated as prostitutes. Their analysis shows the following percentage distribution of V.D. cases by occupation:—

<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>	
Business men & professional	19.2	Housewives	64.98
Clerks, shopkeepers	16.01	Prostitutes	15.6
Students	6.08	Students	1.49
Labourers	42.03	Labourers	5.48
Domestic servants	14.43	Domestic servants	6.95
		Vagrants	1.66
		Dependents in misc., capacities	1.37
Total number of cases :—			
	22,974		95,45

The figures of Dr. S. Noronba of Bombay give the percentage of prostitutes as 21 out of the total infected women, while the married women were found to be 51%. Among other groups of Dr. Naronba's analysis following may be stated as revealing.

<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>	
Domestic, shop servants	26.6%	Married women	51%
Industrial workers	20.6%	Prostitutes	21%
Transport & Communication employees	14.4%	Servant girls	12%
T	8.9%	Mistress	7%
Merchants and salesmen	7.4%	Shop and office girl	5%

While the low percentage of prostitutes may be an under-estimate as usually a girl of that profession would not openly declare herself as such, yet it is a matter of grave concern to find highest percentage among the housewives and married women. This brings us face to face with the serious problem posed by the increasing incidence of the clandestine relationship which is referred to as "wife prostitution" by some workers and is prevalent among the lower economic levels of society in the urban areas, with or without the consent of the husband. These analyses also bring into relief the high incidence of disease among the domestic and hotel servants. The latter naturally points to the imperative necessity of insisting on a thorough medical examination before individual is taken in employment in the above service and subsequently or a periodical check up. Such a routine can only be enforced by the local bodies Health Departments and it is suggested that necessary byelaws be enforced under the Municipal Act for employees, and for regular medical examination and maintenance of records.

As regards other general measures for the prevention and control of the disease, it is amply manifest by long experience that were treatment of the infected can scarcely deal with the problem. Although the advent of penicillin and antibiotics have brought revolution in the treatment of venereal diseases, the prevention and control of the infection among communities can only be effective on the application of public health principles of epidemiological investigation case finding, follow up, contact examination, and health education of the patient and contacts etc. These are the essential requisites of a successful anti V.D. campaign. The heavy load of work in the existing V.D. clinic and lack and proper staff for follow up and contact examination, renders them incapable of functioning as V.D. control centre and restricts their use only to the treatment of the sick. The transmission factor therefore remains unchecked and in spite of the use of modern thereby the patient never gets over the ailment due to constant reinfection from the untreated contacts. All the labour and expense incurred by the individual and the state therefore comes to naught.

Venereal Diseases are thus not a clinical problem but public health one, only capable of solution on the application of principles and techniques of preventive medicine, along with measures dealing with the social aspect of each case accompanied by intensive health education. This is fully borne out by the heavy incidence of infection among housewives, business class and students etc. So far as the question of raising the herd immunity is concerned there is yet no known procedure for immunising a Community in the same sense as immunisation is possible in case of cholera, diphtheria, smallpox etc. though of course an attack may be averted or aborted by taking prophylaxis soon after exposure. This aspect has therefore to be borne in mind in formulating plans for V.D. control.

It is heartening to know that the Govt. of India have recently taken a realistic view of the problem and have included scheme for the control of V.D. as a part of the Health Schemes for the 2nd Five Year Plan.

The plan is based on an integrated programme which combines both curative and preventive aspects. It envisages a V.D. control section in each state under a V.D. control officer with a V.D. clinic and a V.D. laboratory at the state headquarter, a Statistician, and health educator, social worker, and provides necessary facilities for training the health personnel required for V.D. control.

At the district level the scheme provides a properly equipped and staffed V.D. clinic in Association with the district headquarter hospital. In this way it is proposed to establish 8 headquarter clinics and 75 district clinics during the present plan period as a total cost of Rs. 88.81 lakhs out of which the share of the centre works out to 58.67 lakhs. Antigen and P.A.M. will also be supplied by the Centre. Each district clinic will also have a Social worker and lab technician. This is good as far as it goes but it does not go far enough, and it would be futile to expect to control an infection having its ramifications in all sections of society and in all corner of the country with 18 million victims through the agency of 83 state and district clinics in the course of four years of the remaining plan period. Here also it is not known as to what states have so far accepted the liability to implement the scheme and to what extent.

In order to give the scheme truly National Character, it is necessary that proper clinics should be established not only at all district headquarter but also at each tehsil and later on at the thana or taluka headquarters so that proper awareness of the import of the disease by suitable health educators be brought home to the whole of rural population and suitable means for prophylaxis and cure be made available for them at their very doors.

It is also urgently necessary to undertake surveys in selected areas for research cum action purposes to ascertain the extent of the problem and to carry out preventive measures on mass scale. The work of the World Health Organisation team in the Ghund area of Simla District amply shows that in a hyperendemic area of Venereal infections, it is possible to

materially reduce the reservoir of infection even by a single dose therapy. This indicates the line of action, which may be profitably taken in other areas of similar nature and particularly in the outlying rural tracts.

In the large cities areas there must be a suitable provision for V.D. clinics, particularly in areas where there may be any concentration of the prostitutes. These clinics must function both as educative, prophylactic and curative centres and should be kept open during the night to afford facilities to the fresh victims in matters of prophylaxis. Though we are abolitionist by profession, we must take a realistic view of the problem and hit hard on the foci of infection by opening such clinics. So far as big industrial concerns are concerned, provision of such a clinic should be made compulsory under the factory Act for a single or a group of factories comprising a specified minimum labour strength. These should be in Association with their curative dispensaries. The heavy incidence of syphilis among the expectant mothers also makes it necessary that a routine serological examination of blood should be done in every case registering at the Child Welfare Centre and facilities for such examination be made available at the nearest V.D. clinic. The syphilitic pregnant woman must be treated at the antenatal clinics and not pushed out to an overcrowded mixed V.D. clinic. With the advent of penicillin it should be possible to eliminate altogether complication of prenatal syphilis, and this is a field calling for serious endeavour by the social workers. In fact immediate provision must be made in all the V.D. clinics now under operation to make them fully useful and effective. It is also of utmost importance that facilities for blood test for V.D. at these V. D. laboratories must be thrown open free of charge to all the medical practitioners so that there may be a full measure of co-operation from them, in the matter of notification to enable follow up by the centre staff. This should not be difficult if the doctors are assured of secrecy of the identity of their patients. The physician may also help in contact investigation on confidential enquiry from the patient.

In this subject more than in any other the medical student must be given proper orientation in the techniques of investigation of the social factors involved in causation of disease and the need of examining contacts to break the chain of infection. In order to implement the above scheme of operation it will be necessary to revise and augment our targets in the plan. It is estimated that a V.D. clinic can adequately deal with a population of two lakhs, if given proper staff and equipment. Total No. of V.D. clinics on the above basis will come to about one thousand eight hundred. As this may not be feasible just now from financial point of view, we must strive to cover up at least 10% of the entire population, so as to serve worst affected districts and other hyperendemic areas. This would involve an augmentation in the present location of funds in the Plan to about 1.8 crores. The wide spread nature of Venereal Diseases, and the heavy loss of life and prolonged suffering, to

which the untreated population is subjected and the vast reservoir of infection, which must be brought under control are very cogent and strong reasons for stepping up the control measures.

It would be in the fitness of things for a band of devoted social workers, of broad experience and integrity just as in this august assembly to strive for the implementation of the proposals with the Governments and to offer their ungrudging services as social workers in Association with the clinics under the scheme. They must further launch a country wide intensive campaign of health education to create an awareness among the masses of the seriousness of the present situation, to enlist their moral and financial support for the control programmes, in the interest of riding the country from the scourge of these foul infections.

Team Work to Fight Venereal Diseases

BY

Shri J. P. Gupta, New Delhi

The increasing number of venereal disease patients in hospitals and dispensaries and the wider publicity of quacks for their medicines to cure these diseases go to show that the V.D. has increased immeasurably. Unfortunately in India we do not have any such system as compulsory periodical medical examination or the collection of statistics of venereal disease and so no definite idea of percentage of people suffering from this devastating disease can be given.

Despite all progress made in other directions in this country, venereal disease has long remained neglected. Syphilis and Gonorrhoea remain the country's most serious health problems. One of the greatest problems of untreated syphilis and gonorrhoea arises from the fact that a man may infect his wife who may then infect her child during pregnancy. Such a child in turn may, if it lives, grow up handicapped by blindness and other damaging late effects of the disease. The early treatment of mother will give assurance of the birth of a healthy baby.

With the initiative taken by the World Health Organization, some steps, no doubt, have recently been taken by the Government to combat this disease, but they fall too short of the need. A grave danger of a great increase in the prevalence of V.D. can be averted and the rate can be brought lower if a programme of Team Work on the lines of what is being done in the United States of America is followed vigorously. Such a programme can be divided under the following heads :-

1. Legal and protective measures.
2. Educational activities.
3. Sex education and Education for Family Life.
4. Medical and Public Health activities.
5. Public information and community service.
6. Social Hygiene Day.

1. **Legal and Protective Measures** :- India is much backward in this sphere as we have no law prescribing any blood test keep the population immune from contracting or developing venereal diseases, Though we have provision in certain municipal laws for the revocation of a licence of a boarding house, hostel and restaurant for violation of the laws against prostitution, lawlessness or assignation, but there is no agency, except the police, with the Government to keep an eye on the hostels etc. and to bring to books their breach of the rules. It is no use having a law without proper arrangements for its enforcement. What is suggested is that every municipality should have a welfare officer, a socially trained person of high character to see that the social laws are adhered to.

There should be confidential survey of prostitution and related activities and the go-betweens should receive deterrent punishment.

The Social Protection Division of the Federal Security Agency, the V.D. Control Officers of the Army, the Navy and the U. S. Public Health Service, the State and the Local Health and Law Authorities have done and are continuing to do a magnificent job in repression of commercialised prostitution. They are aided by the Association for Social Hygiene, International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Sheriff's Association, American Bar Association etc. etc. In our country on the contrary, we have no such officers of the Government or of the public organizations. No doubt some commendable work has been done in this direction by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India.

We also need laws on the lines of the laws in Albans (U.S.A.) requiring all inhabitants of the country between 14 and 50 years of age to have an approved blood test for syphilis.

There should also be laws requiring pre-marital examination for both sexes helping to protect marriages and babies from the tragedy of syphilis and gonorrhoea. In America such laws exist since 1935 and now over 30 States have them. The general purpose of such a legislation is not to prevent, but to postpone marriage of infected persons while the disease is in a communicable stage.

In order to protect babies there should be pre-natal serological test for syphilis as a part of the examination of every expectant mother, Medical records in U.S.A. prove that if syphilis is discovered early in pregnancy and adequate treatment is given, a baby has 95 percent chances to be born free from this infection.

Thus pre-marital and pre-natal examination laws are necessary for stamping out syphilis, The family must be protected from it by every means at our command.

Equally important with the laws is the adequate provision of wholesome community

recreation specially for the young, proper control of places serving alcoholic beverages, protection of migrant and homeless girls, activities of schools, social agencies and the police etc.

2. **Educational Activities :-** There is need of adequate health instructions, including information on syphilis and gonorrhea as dangerous communicable diseases. Every teacher should be provided with a Manual for Social Hygiene (to be prepared by the Ministry) for advising their students on health problems and the communicable venereal diseases. The Manual should be somewhat on the lines of the Manual "Some Dangerous Communicable Diseases" prepared and distributed by the Association of Social Hygiene in America. The Government of India Education and Health Ministeries should undertake this task. The book should be prepared by a Board consisting of not only physicians but also of psychologists, sociologists and experienced teachers. Workers in the field of social hygiene may be invited to aid the educational officers in disseminating knowledge of the subjects.

3. Sex Education and Education for family life :-

Sex education in the largest sense includes all educational measures which may help human beings of any age and specially in childhood and youth, prepare to meet the problems or situations of life that have their origin in human sex relation and the sex instinct.

Children do acquire sex knowledge whether you give them or not. In the absence of any scientific and systematic effort to give this knowledge they get from unreliable and vulgar sources, with the result that in a good many cases morals become corrupted, vulgar attitudes fixed, and health irreparably injured several years before puberty.

Sex education in childhood and youth should aim at protection of physical and mental health and development of character a process of hygienic care, guidance, instruction and example. The home is the best educator in early period and therefore, parents should be helped by printed material lectures and conferences to prepare themselves for guiding their children in matters of health, attitudes and conduct which concern sex. A short course should be provided for training teachers and social workers. Emphasis should be on normal rather than on abnormal. Extensive knowledge of vice and sexual aberrancy is not helpful to any individual who has not a professional interest in medical or legal phases of social hygiene.

4. Medical and Public Health Activities :-

In every big town and city there should be a Medical Board with a social worker attached to it, appointed by the Government to give to the physicians and the public free consultation and advice on matters of social hygiene.

There should also be one or more medical centres in every city or town to give free treatment to V. D. patients both as indoor and outdoor cases. Such centres should be housed in airy buildings. The personnel of such a centre should consist of a medical officer-in-charge, nurses, a public health nurse and a social worker as a placement officer. The treatment should be based on rapidity and decisiveness. Such centres exist in U.S.A, admission to which are made through Bureau of V.D. of the Health Department.

Every doctor of a public hospital should be given a special course in V. D. treatment programme both preventive and curative so that he may also help in eradicating the disease.

Large industrial concerns should be required by law to have their own arrangements for prevention, treatment and care of the V. D. cases.

Pharmacists co-operation should be invited in educational campaign against V.D. Since many people come to chemists with questions about syphilis and gonorrhoea. their active co-operation in distributing educational material can be of good value in disseminating of medical approved information.

5. Public Information and Community Services :-

Only informed people can act to prevent V.D. and support measures for the control of these dangerous infections. Popular education in methods of prevention of these disease is needed just as in methods for preventing Tuberculosis, Diphtheria and other serious diseases. Information on the dangers of V.D. and the available treatment etc. can reach people through posters, handbills, motion pictures, exhibit, window display, broadcast, press and the public meetings.

6. Social Hygiene Day :-

Once a Year, or twice, if possible, a social hygiene day should be observed by holding mass meetings in every city and town all over the country to explain to the masses the methods for protecting the health and morals of the public from syphilis and gonorrhoea and from the conditions which favour their spread. Responsible social hygiene leaders and field workers should be invited to make known vital facts to interpret Government policies and procedure, and urge united action. Co-operation of the Public Health Services, representatives from the army, voluntary associations and education should be sought

Newspapers should be approached for publicity through news feature articles, editorials and cartoons. Radio should also give publicity to such work as through radio we can reach the masses.

An exhibition of the reading material on control and treatment of V.D. issued from time to time by education department, industrial concerns, health departments of local boards, labour groups, medical association and medical colleges etc, and the latest development in the treatment of V.D. should be organised. It is on such occasions that an appraisal of the effectiveness of the measures taken to combat the problem can be made-to consider together how far we have come, where the attack may now be passed to the best advantage. what are the next objectives, and how the gains made can be held in full strength and extended further.

To conclude we must be aware of the problem of V. D. on our doorsteps. The experience of the last world war and the present condition of other countries gained through observation should serve as sufficient warning. The old phrase 'It can't happen here' has been repalced by 'It is happening here' We should make a nation wide drive against the dangerous diseases syphilis and gonorrohea, against prostitution and promiscuity which help their spread and against the conditions which allow these and allied evils to flourish. We should fight V. D. with a determined will by a nation vide programme of legal and protective measures educational activities as also propaganda and publicity. The home the school the social service organizations and the Government must join hands in protection of our youths today. We should present a united front to stamp out V.D. in order to safeguard health and happiness of Indian homes and families now and to ensure these blessings for Indian youths in the future. The Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India should come forward with a programme in this direction as this is the only all India Organization competent to undertake this task.

Legal Aspects of the Implementation of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956.

BY

Shri R. H. Dhebar. Government Advocate, Ministry of Law

On the occasion of the last meeting of the Association held at Jaipur in January, 1956, two papers were read dealing with certain legal aspects of suppression of immoral traffic in women and girls. At that time this bill was pending before parliament and since then that bill with certain modifications has now become an act of the Central Parliament and it is called "The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956 (Act No. 104 of 1959)". The Act received the assent of the President of India on the 30th December, 1956 and was published in the Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 1956. The Act is a comprehensive one and extends to the whole of India.

2. For the purposes of this paper, it is unnecessary to deal fully all the provisions of this Act. But, I propose to give briefly some of the important aspects of the Act.

3. Although the Act has been passed, it has not come into force as yet. Section 1(3) provides that the operative provisions of the Act shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may by notification in the Official Gazette appoint. Section 23 gives the State Government power by notification in the Official Gazette to make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act, Section 3(4) provides that all rules made under this Act, shall, as soon as may be after they are made, be laid before the State Legislature. Section 24 provides that nothing in the Act shall be construed to be in abrogation the Reformatory Schools Act, 1897, or any State Act enacted under modification of the said Act or otherwise relating to Juvenile offenders. Section 25 is a very important section and it provides that as from the date of the coming into force of the Act in any state, all Acts relating to suppression of immoral traffic in women and girls or to the prevention of prostitution in force in that State immediately before the said date shall stand repealed.

4. The immediate problem that arises before this conference is whether the Central Government should be moved immediately to pass the necessary notification under Section 1(3) of the Act so as to bring the Act into force in all the States of India. As the Act was passed in December, 1956 and more than a year has elapsed since its passing, nobody can deny that this Act, which is a very comprehensive one, should be brought into force as soon as possible, but in view of the provisions of Section 25, by which as already stated, when this Act comes into force, all other State Acts on similar subject shall stand repealed and, therefore, it requires careful consideration whether the Central Government should be moved immediately for the bringing into force of this Act or whether certain further steps are necessary before this Act is brought into force.

5. The question whether the Central Government should be moved immediately to bring this Act into force was placed before the Legal Consultative Committee of Association at Delhi and the Committee was asked to enquire and give their opinion as to whether the Act should be brought into force immediately and if it is brought into force, could it work satisfactorily in the absence of any rules framed under Section 23 of the Act.

6. The Legal Committee had several meetings in Delhi and *prima facie* it appeared to the Committee that it would be dangerous in the extreme to have the Act brought into force without first ascertaining whether the respective State Governments and the Police authorities would be able to work it without there being the necessary rules under Section 23. It appeared to the Committee that many Sections of the Act, especially those in which mention had been made of "Protective Homes" in which women and girls could be kept under various provisions of the Act, would be unworkable until such Protective Homes had been established and notified under the rules. The Committee also felt that as ultimately the Act is brought into force would have to be enforced by the Police, their views on the subject should also be taken, as if it was later discovered that the Act could not be worked without the relevant rules, there would be complete chaos as all existing State laws dealing with the similar subject stood abrogated under Section 25(1). In this connection, the Legal Committee was fortunate enough to have the assistance of the Superintendent of Police, Delhi, and the Committee requested him to make enquiries and find out whether it would be feasible to enforce the provisions of the Act without there being any rules framed by the respective State Governments as provided in Section 23 of the Act. The Superintendent of Police, Delhi, confirmed the apprehension felt by the Legal Committee and stated that in his opinion certain provisions of the Act would not be workable without there first being corresponding rules made under Section 23 of the Act.

7. I now propose to give a short summary of the Sections of the Act, which would be unworkable without the necessary rules. In previous conferences, it was pointed out that

in the absence of any Protective Programme made, it became obligatory for the Courts to either send an offender to jail or to fine her, however reluctant the Court may feel in a particular case. This lacuna has now been filled up and Section 2(g) has provided for "Protective Home" section 2(g) defines a protective home as under :

"Protective Home" means an institution, by whatever name called, in which women and girls may be kept pursuant of this Act includes :—

- (i) a shelter where female undertrials may be kept in pursuance of this Act ; and
- (ii) a corrective institution in which women and girls rescued and detained under this Act may be imparted such training and instruction and subjected to such disciplinary and moral influences as are likely to conduce to their reformation and the prevention of offences under this Act ;

8. Now many Sections of the Act provide that where an offence has been committed by a girl or woman, instead of sending her to prison or imposing a fine on her, the person concerned may be sent to a Protective Home. For instance, Section 7 makes it an offence punishable with imprisonment to carry on prostitution in or in the vicinity of public places. Similarly, Section 8 makes it an offence to seduce or solicit for the purposes of prostitution in any public places including a house or building and this offence is also punishable with imprisonment. Section 10(2) of the Act, however, provides that where a woman or girl is convicted of any offence under Section 7 or Section 8, the Court convicting the woman or girl may having regard to the age, character and antecedents of the woman or the girl and the circumstances in which the offence was committed, pass in lieu of, the sentence of imprisonment or fine, a sentence of detention in a Protective Home for a period not less than two years and not more than 5 years.

9. Similarly, Section 17 provides that where a girl under the age of 21 is rescued from a brothel and she is produced before the appropriate Magistrate, he may order that she be detained in a Protective Home. Section 19 of the Act allows, for an application to be made to a Magistrate by a woman or a girl who is carrying on prostitution, that she may be kept in a Protective Home and the Magistrate may, if he so thinks fit, keep her in a Protective Home for such period as may be specified.

10. From a perusal of the above-mentioned Sections, it will be seen that in many cases instead of sending a person to prison or imposition of a fine, the law provides that such person may be sent to Protective Home, and unless such Protective Homes are formed by the various State Governments and notified as per the rules, these beneficial provisions relating to custody in Protective Homes will be unworkable. In this connection, it may be

noticed that Section 21 of the Act gives the State Government power to establish as many Protective Homes as it thinks fit and Section 23(g) empowers the State Government to frame for *inter alia* the establishment, maintenance; management and superintendence of such Homes. In view of what has been said above, the Legal Committee was unanimously of the view that the Act should not be brought into force until all the various State Governments have established sufficient Protective Homes within the meaning of Section 21 of the Act and have also framed rules as to Protective Homes in accordance with the Provisions of Section 23(2)(g) of the Act.

11. Similar is the position about the notification of a "Public Place" as in this case also the State Governments have to notify it after providing in rules about the manner of such notification. As will be apparent from the scheme a very large part of the cities have to be kept out of the area inhabited by prostitutes and unless this is done, instead of bringing a check on places, it would be quite contrary.

12. From what has already been stated above it will be apparently clear that the framing of the Rules under the Act form a very important part for carrying out the object of the legislation. As already indicated above, the Act provides the Rules to be framed by the State Government and have to be placed before the legislature for being passed by them. The Legal Committee feels that in the first instances even if the power is vested in the State Governments to make the Rules under the Act it was not necessary for providing that the said Rules should necessarily go before the legislature for being approved. The Committee, therefore, feels that the best way to expedite the framing of the Rules in this behalf is that a recommendation should be made to the Central Government that the task of framing of a model set of rules should immediately be taken in hand by the Central Government, and that the same should be got approved by the State Governments, so that continuity and the similarity with regard to the rules could be ensured in the State Rules. Of course according to the particular situation of a place or need of the State it may be that they might have to modify the rules. But once the indication is given of the draft rules as to what is sought to be included, there is no likelihood of wider divergence in the framing of the Rules by the different States. The Central Government should, therefore, be requested to take in hand the drafting of the model rules for the purposes of the Act.

13. In conclusion I would, therefore recommend that the following steps should be taken :-

- (a) That the Central Government be approached forthwith to frame model rules as suggested earlier.
- (b) That all State Governments should forthwith take steps under Section 21 of the

- Act to establish as many protective homes under the Act as may be necessary for satisfactorily implementing the Act.
- (c) On the model rules being furnished to the State Governments by the Central Government the State Governments should forthwith make the necessary adaptations and modifications to suit their own State.
 - (d) After such adaptations and modifications the State Governments should refer the rules to the State Legislature under the provisions of Section 23 (4) of the Act.

14. Finally, I would like to say that the Central Legislature has now provided an Act which is comprehensive and which, if intelligently and diligently applied by the State Authorities, will do much to eradicate some of the evils of prostitution and trafficking in women and girls, and I have no doubt that the members of the Association all over the States in India will also take diligent and active steps to see that the Act is enforced and that it does not merely remain on the Statute Book as an ornament.

Problems of Prostitution and Legislative Aspects

BY

Prabhudas Balubhai Patwari M.L.C. Bombay

Democracy cannot endure well unless it is based on sound social and cultural foundations. It therefore demands proper discipline from the individual in the larger interests of society. Individual freedom is to be subordinated to considerations of social stability and general well-being. The State and Society both have accepted that the evil of prostitution should be ex-terminated. And that it cannot be allowed to stay either under the guise of being a necessary evil or under the name of freedom of profession or under any other pretext.

Prostitution is a grave pestilence that has spread very widely throughout the world. It is a shame and blasphemy for the modern age. It involves serious repercussions to the community by corroding its health, happiness and human dignity. It is a gross inroad that militates against progress and social welfare.

To rely on Constitutional defence for this profession is to be in "Fool's Paradise". Constitution clearly forbids traffic in human beings and exploitation of every type.

The problem has global dimensions but India cannot rest content merely by copying measures adopted in other countries. It has to devise suitable ways and means for eliminating this vituperative disease. Special considerations in the light of experience of local conditions and peculiar circumstances are to receive due emphasis.

Poverty, ignorance, illiteracy, old customs and social injustice play vital role in pushing a large number of women in this profession. But in India the problem of clandestine prostitution is shocking. It is of considerable magnitude. In a way it is more harmful to the individual and society as there is wide scale victimisation and exploitation of many innocent women and girls. Present law is not able to extend its arms to curb this hidden viper. In towns and cities access to private prostitution is not very difficult. Soliciting and procuring are openly resorted to. Hotels and Rendezvous are not few.

This city has no regular open brothels or prostitutes as such but it is facing a serious menace of trafficking of women and girls on a huge scale. One can secure at a short notice women

of different types at varying prices either for a marriage which is almost prostitution of longer duration or of a night. Brokers and agents with their retinue in the mofussil are well-organised. Undeterred and unashamed they carry on their flourishing business on a large network. Illiterate and poor parents or guardians mostly from rural areas and backward classes are allured by lucrative marriage offers for their wards. Once a person is in the ring he is rendered a helpless victim gaining nothing but ultimately losing everything. In the initial period the girl is treated well. She is kept under the glamour and thrill of Pictures—powder—sarees—photos—car, trips etc. Under the guise of a future husband she is mixing with a stranger and is soon made to forget her notions of virtue. Persons change rapidly and she is soon disillusioned. If she marries, the agent does not permit her to settle down in life. Within a short interval he surreptitiously settles her second wedding and then third wedding and so on. There are also numerous cases where low caste girls are passed off as of a higher caste to high caste persons at a heavy price. Later on these girls are taken away. Most of the husbands have no courage to rush to courts out of the fear of threats and loss of prestige. Few husbands get ready to re-settle with such wives. Eventually a large number of women are constrained to toss in different beds getting hardly starvation wages. The lion's share is pocketed by the thriving agents.

I am reminded of once existing evil in some parts of this State of the mortgage of women with possession. Creditors used to secure agreements known as "Chotla Khat" (चोटला खत)

"Braid Agreement" duly stamped and executed from debtors. One of the terms of this agreement was for handing over of the custody of the debtor's wife or daughter for definite period to the creditor in lieu of interest of the loan. Poor and illiterate backward class people were labouring under a belief that the agreement was legally binding and in pursuance thereof they were actually parting with possession of women without any demur. It is good that due to efforts of social workers this evil is no longer seen.

To wipe out deep rooted prostitution is not an easy job. Strenuous efforts from all directions including the State aid and cultivation of a strong public temper are to be undertaken with co-ordination, boldness and sincerity.

So far as the question of legislation is concerned the attitude of the Government is already committed towards abolition of Prostitution. Punitive and Preventive measures are being undertaken by now.

The recent legislation—The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in women and girls Act 1956 (Central Act No. CIV of 1956) is one of the most important landmarks in this direction. It is an Act to provide in pursuance of the International Convention signed at New York on the 9th day of May 1950 for the suppression of immoral traffic in women and girls.

Similar Acts were in force in almost fifteen States in our country but due to various territorial troubles and mild provisions of the Act there was more defiance of the law than its enforcement. This Act is a great improvement on the existing State laws which are to be repealed soon. Many of the defects and loopholes of the old laws are rectified. As the new Act is for the first time an All-India Legislation of this type it is hoped that it will function well and harmoniously throughout the length and breadth of our land.

Section 4 of the new Act provides punishment upto two years sentence and a fine of Rs. 1000 for the offence of living on the earnings of prostitution. Touts or persons in company or with control or influence over the prostitutes are also covered up within this category.

Section 5 covers punishment of a period of not less than one year and also fine upto Rs. 1000 for the offence of procuring, inducing or taking away a woman or a girl for the sake of prostitution. The offence does take place irrespective of the age or consent of the woman or girl.

Stringent provisions are made for preventing detention of a woman or a girl in premises where prostitution is carried on and for preventing prostitution in or in the vicinity of public places. Similarly soliciting or seducing are also made punishable.

The Act provides for establishment of protective homes for taking care of women and girls convicted for offences under Section 7 and 8 after giving due regard to the age, character, antecedents and the circumstances. Henceforth no Rescue home or Ashram would be allowed to function except under and in accordance with the conditions of a licence issued by the State Government. This provision will have a deterrent check on many Mushroom Ashrams which are almost semi-Brothels.

Another good feature of the Act is the provision of strong machinery for the enforcement of the Act by creating cadre of special police officials. The Government is authorised to appoint a non-official advisory committee of social workers and possibly women workers to advise this special official on questions of general importance.

Section 17 provides for immediate custody of girls found from search or rescued and for keeping them in protective homes through magistracy. Here a panel of social workers is also provided, for assisting the Magistrate. Facilities are also available to women already in prostitution to come out and get shelter in Protective Homes.

In order to achieve our goal quickly the Act ought to have contained more piercing spearheads of wider ambit. As for example the ban on individual prostitution and prohibition for individuals from hiring the person of a prostitute for price are important aspects to be dealt with for putting an end to commercialised vice of every type.

This law also demands suitable modification in the rules of evidence and criminal procedure. In given circumstances some presumptions should be drawn. The onus of proof for innocence should be shifted on the accused. The methods of vigilance and the question of Boguscustomer deserve radical change. It is extremely difficult to get independent witnesses at various places as one has to face numerous ordeals both within and outside the court.

The machinery for enforcement must also be devised on Welfare considerations. The personnel of the staff must be equipped with special training and qualifications to cope with this missionary work effectively. Efforts must be made by the Central Government to create and provide for a cadre of high standard of women Magistrates for this work.

The law should have also provided for the ultimate solution of the problem i.e., adequate arrangements for rehabilitating these women. As the State Government is given very wide powers to frame the rules under this Act, it must cover up all possible aspects for expeditious and effective implementation of the Act. It should also devise powerful machinery to achieve the target soon. Let us hope that the Central Government will be always ready to amend the law from time to time to meet the requirements of social progress.

Adequate amendments in other Acts should be immediately incorporated in order to check the spread of this evil. The Child Marriage Restraint Act must be made more stringent to prevent child marriages which are still going on in hundreds. Obviously child marriages bring in its train many attendant consequences like young widows, destitutes, desertions, tortures etc. In addition to drastic penal provisions of punishment for the breach, this law should refuse to recognise the child marriage as valid.

The children's Act should be an All-India legislation. The standard of Probation Officers and Remand homes should be maintained entirely from social welfare consideration.

The Divorce Law also deserves some modification. There should be straight decree of dissolution of marriage on grounds of long period desertions.

But let us not to be complacent by merely relying on the strength of legislation. Laws have many limitations and often in such measures fraud precedes law. However useful a role the legislation plays in moulding the society the real need is to develop strong public opinion and a fundamental change in outlook towards this problem. We have not been able to secure adequate change in our general attitude towards womanhood and backward classes though they form a very large majority of population. Many people still take woman as a chattel—Man considers his right to possess, to beat, to sell, to take away by force and to drive away a woman at his choice to be unquestionable.

The Grip of the caste system on social questions is so strong as to throttle very seriously individual freedom and social progress it should be immediately reduced. Nation wide com-

paign for Female Education deserves no inconsiderable part of our attention. The astounding number of female suicide, abolition of Purdah system and recognition of high Status and dignity for widows with due encouragement for widow-remarriage are some of the other important problems worth consideration.

The responsibilities of social workers and Institutions are increasingly heavy. Vigorous and stimulating efforts with boldness and sincerity are to be reinforced for eliminating this stinking wretchedness haunting our society. It is rather unfortunate that some good social organisations are getting crippled due to its stewardship being captured by some educated anti-social elements. Men and women who discard their innocent spouses and who live with another whether through marriage or otherwise either after giving divorce or not certainly deserve no status or position on social platform irrespective of their capacity or intelligence. Their example is naturally cited as a precept by many mischief mongers. It is really deprecating that such people are sometimes successful in manoeuvring support from some of our prominent workers. It need not be emphasized that corruption and impurities in workers are more dangerous in social work than anywhere else. It is high time that in the crusade for a "holy cause" our social services should be equipped with integrity, sincere dedication and self-introspection.

These vast vital issues require deep search and thorough investigation from various angles including legal, scientific, psychological, physiological and sexual viewpoints. The individual, institutions and the Government must with co-ordination gear up all driving forces for extirpating this age-long evil at the earliest in order to save the society from further deterioration and discredit.

A Review of the Position of Prostitution Problem in Madras State

BY

Mrs. V.T. Lakshmi, Madras

Much has been said and continues to be said that social workers in the field of Vigilance Welfare have done little to eradicate the immoral traffic in women and children in the Madras State. But, few care to understand and appreciate the extreme delicacy of the very nature of the work or the numerous handicaps under which it has to be planned and conducted or the lack of public recognition and co-operation inspite of which it has to keep up its crawling progress. The persistence of the evil of the commercialised vice in one new form or the other under several covers is admittedly an indication of the steady deterioration in moral values held by our society. While strangely enough, unhampered by any difficulties, the traffickers in vice are able to continue to direct vigorously their ingenuity and constantly alter their tactics to their inglorious end, not lacking any patronage from their numerous votaries! Neither the moral nor hygienic consequences of an irresponsible and profligate life or exploitation of the innocent and gullible seem to have thwarted their endeavours or horrified their feelings. Unfortunately, of late, symptoms of tendencies to divorce morality from all avenues of life have also been detected against which we have been timely warned by our eminent leaders. We hear of industrial progress, economic prosperity, social reformation and political integrity and expansion being planned and attended to, without any reference to moral uplift or regeneration. We forget that no nation can ever hope to progress materially unless it safeguards the sanctity of human relations and the chastity of women and even men! Nor have the vicissitudes of times have enabled us to realise that morality is but the bulwark of social, economic and political reconstruction programme of any independent country. The present unparalleled confusion and unrest everywhere and all over the world is only due to the predominance of matter over spirit, flesh over soul and lust over love; and the prostitution, either individual or commercialised, is just a natural product of this baneful tendency. But, thanks to the Vigilance Welfare Workers' persevering efforts for over three decades in the Madras State, the moral aspect of the social freedom has long been driven home to the minds of the public and their co-operation to the eradication of the commercialised vice has been in a way registered.

And the State Government, a pioneer in the field, have passed the legislation to suppress the evil and operate it through their Police Department. With an object of attending to the more essential aspect of the rescue and reclamation work, they have provided both Government managed and Government aided Shelters and Rescue Homes and Vigilance Homes in the City and State, for the reception, care, training and rehabilitation of the rescued victims of the houses of ill-fame and of the exploited gullible women of below thirty years of age, convicted for street prostitution through street solicitation respectively; the administration and inspection of these Care Institutions are vested in the Department of Vigilance Service, annexed to the Department of Certified Schools. Further, the pre-discharge investigations and after-care of the dischargees of these Homes are entrusted to the State Probation Department by the State Government. It will not be out of place, therefore, to mention herein that the Madras Government have well nigh in advance envisaged the present programme of the Central Social Welfare Board in this direction.

It is almost impossible to present a complete picture of the present condition of prostitution in the Madras State, in contrast to that existed in the days gone by, in the absence of accurate statistics. But, it will suffice to state that the Madras State has always been one which zealously adhered to the principle of abolition. There was no time in the known and recent history of the State when the system of regulation was accepted by our Government as a policy. There was no planning of registration of houses of ill-repute; nor was there any system of certification of "prostitutes" or a "Red Lamp Area" for their entire segregation. But, in the years ago, in the absence of total public opinion and effective legislation, there were many "brothels", scattered over in the society at large, in the City and all over our State. Thanks, however, to the slow but steady awakened public consciousness to the pernicious effects of the immoral traffic in women and girls, through the tireless propaganda and programmes of the Vigilance Associations in the State and due to vigilant measures adopted by the Police to effect the closure of these 'brothels', centres of the nefarious activities of the anti-social elements in this line, this immoral traffic in the old organised form, conducted defiantly, is brought under control. The conditions existing years ago on the eve of the passing of the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, favouring the steady growth and prevalence of organised houses of ill-fame, where in were kept in captivity many an innocent girl for the heinous trade in human flesh were both sordid and painful. The society was honeycombed with the defiantly run brothels. Every brothel had two to ten girls of all ages, castes and creeds and served as dangerous and beakoning sign-posts to gullible and wayward girls of respectable families; breeding centres for contagious and corroding diseases, baits for draining young monied men's pockets and lastly as demoniacal instruments in sapping the vitality of the citizens of our State, especially the youngsters. But, with the ardent endeavours of the social workers, coupled with the stringent measures of the Police in the State, this closely knit organisation has almost been dismantled in our State. The few brothels which lurk here and there and which are closed down through

random and planned raids by the State Police, as and when they are suspected and detected are those which are slyly plying their operations under crafty covers. With the institution of separate Vigilance Police Sections and units of Women Police to aid them, which proposals are receiving the Government's consideration, it will soon be possible to aim at the closure of even these surreptitious dens of vice. But, during the period of the great World War II and ever since, the evil has reappeared under several ingenuous covers, least anticipated by the social workers, legislators or Police. In the clever disguises of boarding and lodging houses, nursing homes, entertainment clubs and massage institutes, houses of ill-fame are continuing to flourish without fear of detection or suppression. It is these camouflaged brothels that are creating a problem which is defying a feasible solution. There are again places which are owned or occupied by the anti-social elements, who merely draw in, either directly or with the connivance of pimps or procurers, from time to time, different young women, who are under their charge, but who live in different houses or as sub tenants in the same, tenanted or owned by the traffickers, in the disguise of commission agents, native doctors, business men, film men and so on, when demands for women for the purpose of prostitution come from men-visitors to these places through middlemen, the agents of traffickers. Such places are beyond the pale of legislation, although they are for all practical purposes brothels in disguise. It is also common for many men-visitors to these places to take out their erstwhile 'night companions' by cars, rickshaws, taxis, etc., so as to evade the law and conceal their own identification. So, "moving brothels" are fast increasing in appreciable number in our City and a few important district towns in the mufassal. But, these new forms or types of houses of ill-fame do not come and cannot be brought within the scope or operation of any prevailing legislation. It does however warrant exploring the tighter and newer methods of combating the evil with an unequivocal spirit of drive.

It must be noted that more than the commercialised vice or immoral traffic in women and girls in its changed and disguised forms, it is the individual prostitution that is largely prevalent in our City and State. It is carried on non-commercial basis, either for one's own livelihood or, more often than not, as a supplementary means to aid one's legitimate earnings. It is more prevalent among the amateurs than among the professionals, although the latter is not completely non-existent. This evil is vastly spreading and causing great alarm to the public, besides affecting the moral of family life. A word about the young women involved in this new type of individual prostitution. The professionals among them belong to all castes and creeds and their group is sometimes augmented by certain ex-devadasis, who cannot remain and carry on their ancient profession at least in our State in the presence of the Anti-Devadasi Act. The non-professionals in this group comprise separated wives, deserted wives, run-away wives, unmarried women or mothers, widows with or without any moral slur and so on and so forth. Once they get into this pit, it is very difficult for them to get out of it and re-start their self-respectign lives due to psychological and sociological reasons. Besides, this group, is another

category of women and girls given to modern type of prostitution on individual basis. They are called "amateur prostitutes." They are of modern type, not always or solely depending upon the income ill-gotten through prostitution. When needs or fancies and adventurous spirit for bohemian life arise, they resort to it more to satisfy their curiosity for the novelty of experience: They are out more for companionship, cooing and coddling than for physical enjoyment. The returns they get in the form of cash or kind as a payment for their service or present are only to provide them with adequate pin money for leading a fashionable modern life, often far beyond their status in life. As already stated, it is these amateurs who are proving to be a menace to the morale and health of families and society. To combat or circumvent it is well-nigh impossible. This group consists of mainly misguided students, and employed young women. Western life, imported into our society and which persists even today, certain debaucherous cinema pictures, obscene literature, lack of proper upbringing or supervision at home and hostels or boarding houses and undesirable associates and their friendship besides several psychological, sociological and economic causes are responsible for keeping this section intact as a concern. Either directly or through their associates of questionable nature, they get their erstwhile Romeos only for the sake of getting some fun and experiences of love and companionship without involving any serious responsibility. They do not however mind if they get some money or presents in the bargain. There is again another delicate and embarrassing form of present day prostitution which finds a place in this category: It is "wife prostitution." It is pursued by certain lower middle class and even upper middle class men, who have no scruples to observe or follow, in order to get posts, positions, promotions and such similar favours. According to Dr. R. V. Rajam, one of the accredited world specialists in Venereology, this type of new prostitution is fairly widespread and even threatens to be on the steady increase in our State. It is better to leave it at that rather than expatiate on it.

Another deplorable form of present-day prostitution is kidnapping and abduction of young women for prostitution. This feeder vice to the individual or commercialised prostitution is fast gaining ground, but under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, the State Police are ever busy in keeping these evils or crimes under absolute control.

Prostitution through street solicitation is yet another form of the vice that is proving to be great nuisance to the public in our State. The train of street walkers with their accomplices—pimps and procurers—is often charged by the Police under the relevant sections of the Madras Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act. But, this stream is always replenished with fresh entrants, drawn from young women of all castes and classes of society owing to social, sociological and economic causes. So, it is this socio-moral problem that is looming large in our City and State at present. The evil takes its course in various crafty and undetected forms and ways that it is

found impossible to eradicate it under the circumstances beyond the province of legislation: Only if street prostitution proves an 'obstruction' and causes 'annoyance', it could be penalised under the existing legislation. So, care is taken by the experienced parties in the line to carry on, avoiding both the conditions primarily essential for prosecution.

Thus, in the Madras State, it is not the commercialised prostitution or immoral traffic that is proving an alarming menace, but only the varied modern types of individual prostitution, enumerated above. In as much as individual prostitution is not a crime and hence these diversified types prevalent in our society, cannot be tackled by the existing legislation, these socio-moral factors are nevertheless sapping the vitality of people involved and infests them with corroding diseases. If left untackled and uncontrolled, even if their total abolition or eradication are impossible and impractical, they will ultimately lead their votaries to resort to the commercialised prostitution. Miss Meliscent Shepherd, who for a long time was connected with the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India, used to remark truly enough: "Individual immorality, the outcome of multifarious social and religious causes, encourages individual prostitution, which cannot be styled as a crime to be punished and hence decisively promotes the commercialised prostitution." Therefore, those of us who are anxious to extricate our society and States from the clutches of the demoniacal commercialised vice, should devote equal time and energy to the liquidation of its parent evil of individual prostitution in any form. Only then we will be striking at the root of the problem instead of beating about the bush. Let us, however, remember that there can be no legislation at any time to tackle the hydra-headed problem of individual prostitution. It is possible only by individual awakening, created by more and more enlightened public opinion, which in its turn can be built up by incessant and intensive propaganda alone. Not only that: We should also carefully study and survey and take into stock the causes of the new types of prostitution that are prevalent in our society; and we should work zealously for their removal. It is a national rebuilding work in which women and men should be keenly interested and contribute their laudable share.

First and foremost, we should do our best to revive faith in God, which is fast fading away, and help to re-cultivate self-realisation in every man and woman for the imminent need not to swerve from the path of morality. In this sphere, our religious reformers have a great part to play. Secondly, the members and well-wishers of the Associations for Moral and Social Hygiene and Vigilance Associations will have to carry on their sacred task of replacing the double standard by the single standard of morality in the consciousness of our society, while carefully preventing the present and even future generations from their rush to harmful and distorted notions of false independence, nay licentiousness to lead reckless lives. Thirdly, as from experience, it is found that the delayed marriages of grown up girls, on account of exorbitant costliness of marriages and payments of dowries and their search for sex satisfaction lead them

astray and finally to swell the supply factor for the evil of individual or commercialised prostitution. It is for the social workers and reformers to devise ways and means to solve the problem of "lonely lives" of girls by making marriages less expensive and more agreeable as well as effecting the abolition of dowry in any form. Fourthly, there is a large group of young employed men having to remain unmarried in towns because of their paltry salaries or wages and consequently to their taking to "temporary or random wives", who give them their required physical satisfaction without involving them in responsibilities of the sanctioned married life. There are also cases of married men having to lead "gross widowers' life" in towns, where they are employed. Their problems are too delicate and intricate but these men need to be impressed with the importance and value of leading abstemious life not only on moral but also on hygienic grounds. They should be helped to shed the age-long-but-erroneous belief that finding outlets for their sexual urges is necessary for the preservation of their health. It is in this sphere that medical men with social welfare at heart can render great service. Fifthly, steps should be taken to effect greater and more effective control over the publication of yellow literature and exhibition of objectionable pictures at cinema theatres, for they spoil the equilibrium of growing minds and tempt the youth to hurl themselves headlong into the pits of vices recklessly. Sixthly, thanks to modern civilization and scientific inventions, which are however not unmixed blessings, the only effective and preventive weapons of olden days against the individual prostitution, namely fear of the contagious diseases and the fright of illegitimate pregnancies being detected in women-partners in the nefarious pacts of sexual indulgence with men have been offset, fortunately or unfortunately, by the introduction of new penicillin treatment and the extensive use of contraceptives. As a consequence of this, there is the present increase of illicit and indiscriminate sexual intercourses between irresponsible men and women, resulting in the individual but promiscuous prostitution: If it is allowed to persist, it will lead to the commercialised prostitution re-appearing in newer camouflaged forms. It is for the Vigilance workers and moral and social hygiene thinkers to take up the challenge to face directly and teach the irresponsible men and women the real purpose for which these modern scientific inventions and devices are meant and that they are not to be misused for their nefarious immoral purposes.

To conclude, there is something wrong with the conditions of the present times all over the world. The atmosphere is saturated with temptations and easy facilities for young men and women to go wrong. The true value of purity and chastity is almost lost sight of or undermined. Individual responsibility is dwindling down. The unity of family life is discredited. The parents' responsibility in bringing up their children is sadly neglected. The sanctified conception of marriage as an institution is slighted. The education at schools and colleges is completely devoid of true religion and sex knowledge and it is proving in no way a helpful factor in the formation of the individual's character or in his or her preparation to enter family

life or bear its responsibilities and duties. Individual discrimination or discretionary powers to make right choices in life or powers of self-resistance against evil temptations are getting weakened in many cases. As a result of this, youngsters falling into evil company and preyed upon by unsatisfactory influences of neighbours as well as by precipitous temptations are an inevitable feature of the day. Thus, it is the individual irresponsibility and lack of sense of duties to family and society that lead to the perpetuation of the ancient evil in its modern form. The magnitude of the problem of new and present types of individual and camouflaged commercialised prostitution in the Madras State but not unfamiliar to other States in India or in the world, producing patent disastrous results should not be left untackled lest it may wear out the body polity of any society, nay, of any nation itself. Most of the causes leading to the evil are remediable by the combined efforts of economists, psychologists, psychiatrists, religious reformers, political thinkers and social workers, in collaboration with the public opinion and co-operation to shun the evil of prostitution of any type and to alter its present attitude of penalising women and letting men go scot-free, although both are responsible for perpetuating it. "Agricultural expansion, industrial development, economic improvement, social advancement, political solidarity and spiritual enlightenment can be achieved in any country in general and in our infant independent country India, in particular, only if they are built carefully on the rocks of moral purity of individuals, family, society and Nation!" Let everyone of us remember this and work for the reconstruction of the personality of individuals and thereby of the societies and Nations.

N.B: Opinions expressed herein are entirely my personal ones.)

REPORTS

All Bengal Women's Union Home

From February '56 to August '57

A review of the activities of the All Bengal Women's Union Home during the period in question includes features worth mentioning. The Silver Jubilee recently celebrated gave new life to this institution. We pause to look back on events of the last 25 years with all the successes and failures and from past experience we hope to build a brighter future more beneficial to the women, girls and children under our care.

The Main Building underwent thorough repairs. We are thankful to the Government for a special grant for the purpose. Two rooms have been added to the Industrial Cooking Department.

The financial aid from the Central Social Welfare Board has enabled us to expand our activities.

MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management was duly re-constituted and met regularly on the second Wednesdays of the month. The Industrial Sub-Committee sent in valuable suggestions to the Board and helped to increase the efficiency of the workers.

STAFF

An experienced Superintendent is incharge of the institution. We have a well-qualified Headmistress and trained and experienced teachers for the Primary School and the Industrial Departments. Most of whom are residential. A Lady Doctor visits the Home daily. The other members of the staff are keen and sincere workers. The financial help from the Central Social Welfare Board has enabled us to strengthen the staff.

EDUCATION

Primary Classes are held at different times of the day to enable the girls of the Industrial Sections to attend. Some attend the Debendra Vidyapith (High School). One of

our own girls who appeared for the School Final Examination from the United Missionary High School was successful and joined the I. A. Classes at the Surrendra Nath Banerji College Another girl passed her Intermediate Arts Examination and is studying for her B. A. at the same College.

The Industrial Training and work centres include Pottery, Cloth Printing and Bakery in addition to Weaving, Needlework and Tailoring, Cooking and Canteen Management. More girls from the Training Section have joined the work centres after completing their various courses which are—

(a) Weaving—	..	2 years
(b) Needlework & Tailoring—	...	3 „
(c) Cooking—	...	1 „

The Canteen at Messrs Standard Pharmaceutical Works is run independently by 6 girls. A Canteen has been newly started at the Planning Office, Park Street. The Mistanna Bhandar accepts large orders for picnics and entertainments. A Gas connection in the Cooking Department Kitchen has been possible from a donation by the American Women's Club supplemented by the Central Social Welfare Board grant.

Extra curricular activities are encouraged and whenever possible trips to various places are encouraged. Some girls had the opportunity of visiting Shantiniketan. Others were taken to Puri; Mrs. Sundaram made this trip an enjoyable one by accompanying the girls and looking to their needs and comfort. The usual festivals throughout the year are observed. Lectures, Educational Films are attended by the girls. Mrs. Sudha Mazumdar has made it possible for some girls to have the pleasure of being of service to other unfortunate women. Some of our girls entertain the women prisoners by singing Kirtans to them regularly.

The Prize-Distribution was held in January. Mr. Jackson gave away the prizes and Sri T. Roy presided.

The Annual Sports were held in February '57 at Raj-Bhavan. Sm. Padmaja Naidu very kindly gave a few words of advice to the girls, Mrs. Morley opened the Sale of work.

VISITS & INSPECTION

Sri R. Banerji, Asstt. Inspector of Social Welfare, West Bengal, visited the institution on 22nd June, 1967 and Sri R. Laher of the Industries' Department of the Govt. of West Bengal, visited it prior to that date. The former expressed his full satisfaction of the training being imparted to the inmates while the latter did not send his inspection remarks.

HEALTH & DISCIPLINE

Regular and systematized work keep the inmates fit & healthy on the whole. Cases of suspected T.B. or other serious diseases are taken to the Hospital. Our grateful thanks are due to the authorities of Sanatoriums for prompt action in providing beds and sending back our girls free from the ailments. For maintaining order and cleanliness of the Place, different houses are put in charge of different groups of girls. A Cup presented by Mrs. Sinha is awarded to the Best House. A Home where numbers are constantly changing and frequent new admissions have to be made, the maintaining of discipline is an arduous task. We are glad to report that the help and sympathy from the members, well-wishers and the co-operation of the staff and some girls have made it possible,

REHABILITATION

Marriages ...	2
Adoptions ...	2
Gone back to	
Family ...	3
In the Samaj Kalyan Projects ...	3
Working outside ...	3

A girl with four children was admitted. All the four children were admitted into the Children's Welfare Home and the mother has been sent for Dai-Training.

Our grateful thanks are due to the donors a list of whom together with the amount of their generous donations shown against the name of each is appended herewith.

All Bengal Women's Union Home

CASH DONATIONS RECEIVED IN 1956

The Secretary, Indian Football Association	...	Rs.	75-0-0
Mohini Mohan Bose Trust	...	"	180-0-0
The President, American Women's Club	...	"	1,200-0-0
Mrs. S. Curlender (Clothes)	...	"	18-0-0
Calcutta Rangers Club	...	"	1,000-0-0
Mrs. C. Das Gupta	...	"	10-0-0
Mrs. P. R. Das	...	"	20-0-0
Mrs. S. C. Das	...	"	10-0-0
Mrs. Sati Sinha	..	"	5-0-0
Sm. Chitra Pal Chaudhury	...	"	100-0-0
Mrs. Sundaram	...	"	5-0-0
Miss. P. N. Shome	...	"	2-0-0
Mrs. P. N. Haksar	...	"	10-0-0
Shri S. K. Mehta	...	"	20-0-0
Sri Amarendra Nath Mitra	...	"	25-0-0
Sri S. C. Guha	...	"	50-0-0
Mrs. R. Perieval	...	"	31-0-0
Sri Arabinda Roy	...	"	15-0-0
Managing Trustee Kumar Promothanath Roy Trust of			
Public Charitable	...	"	500-0-0
(Clothes given to children & Women)	...	"	225-0-0
Sm. Bhroti Bose.	...	"	5-0-0
Clothes given to children & Women	...	"	225-0-0
Commissioner of Police (Poor Box Fund)	...	"	1,000-0-0
Grant from Governor's Discretionary Fund	...	"	250-0-0
Mrs. Sinha for Prize	...	"	10-0-0
Calcutta Rangers Club	...	"	1,000-0-0

All Bengal Women's Union Home

GIFTS RECEIVED IN 1956-57

The Administrator General of West Bengal	...	50 Blankets
Bengal Potteries Ltd.	...	1200 pcs. saucers
Received through		
M/s R. Sen & Co,	..	20 Bags Dry Milk
Received through		
M/s R. Sen & Co.	...	100 Butter Oil
Dr. H. C. Mukerjee,		
Governor of West Bengal	...	4 Cases of Ghee
United Council of		
Relief & Welfare	...	100 yards material
Mrs. P. K. Mukherji	...	Tops
Mrs. M. Das Gupta	...	One Wooly
The Director of Public Instruction	...	Milk (Powder 7 Drums Butter Oil-24 cases
Mrs. C. Das Gupto	...	Babies' clothes
The Indian Aluminium		
Co. Ltd. Rolling Mills	...	333 lbs of aluminium circles for utensils
Steel Maker	...	100 Cases Butter Oil
M/s Calcutta Chemical Co. Ltd.	...	Medicines
S. Gore Esq. C/o Patterson Engineering Co. Ltd.	...	Loan of a Station Wagon for Outing to Rahara
Sri R. Bose, Jt. Secretary		
Relief and Rehabilitation	...	Loan of Transport for outing to Rahara

**Sm. Renuka Roy, Minister for Relief & Rehabilitation,
Government of West Bengal**

**Sri P. K. Miter, Director,
Basanti Cotton Mills
Mrs. Choudhury, Bhatnagar**

Mrs. Rajeswari Dutta

**Lady Mitter
Tata Oil Mill Co. Ltd.**

Mrs. C. Das Gupta

**Standard Pharmaceutical
Deputy Administrator General of West Bengal**

Vitamin Tablets. Red Cross

**Miss Lal
Phillips Electrical Co. Ltd.**

Basanti Cotton Mills Ltd.

...	Rs. 200/- Towards Puja Clothes for Refugee Inmates
...	35 Pairs of Sarees
—	Clothes for the babies
...	Old clothes for inmates
...	Toys and clothes
...	One Gross, 501 Special Soap
...	Puja clothes dona- tion
...	Medicines
...	50 Blankets
...	12 New Saries
...	2000 tablets
...	1 Tanpora
...	Gift of Infraphil light
...	Concession rate for Sarees supplied.

AGRA

BY

Dr. Roshan Singh Sodhi, Hony. Secretary, A.M.S.H., Agra Branch.

(How the Branch was Established)

At Agra the problem of prostitution is very acute. The brothels are situated on the main bazars and in close proximity to the educational institutions and places of worship. The prostitutes exhibit themselves openly and play their immoral trade in such a manner that the evil practice cannot even escape from the eyes foreign visitors coming to see the city of Taj. Moreover their existence on the main bazars have deteriorated influence on the growing generation of the town.

Taking into view all these weighty considerations adversely effecting the moral of the town, some respectable citizens of Agra sat together and after due and mature consideration decided to find, and actually founded an association known as Agra Citizens Rights Protection Society with Dr. Roshan Singh Sodhi as its president and Shri A. Rehaman as its Hony. Secretary. This Society in course of its work came into contact with Matta Ji Rameshwari Nehru and Shirimati Humayun Kabir the then President and Hony. General Secretary of Association for Moral Social Hygiene in India. The negotiations for the formation of the branch at Agra were finalised at Chandigarh when seven delegates from Agra attended the 4th All India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene held at Chandigarh, Punjab.

The Agra Branch was inaugurated on 15th Mach, 1955 by Shirimati Hamayun Kabir, the then Hony. General Secretary and Organiser of Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India, in presence of a distinguished gathering at Agra. The inaugural meeting was sponsored by Mr. J. M. N. Raina, I.A.S., the then District Magistrate Agra and was presided over by Mrs. Vimla Raina, who was also elected its first president. She was succeeded in the office by Mrs. M. G. Kaul and latter on Mrs. Kaul was succeeded by Mrs. C. B. L. Dube. Now Mrs. Shiveram Singh, the wife of the present District Magistrate Agra has very kindly consented to be the president of the Branch Association.

Mrs. J. S. Lal, wife of the Commissioner Agra Division has graciously accepted to be the Patrons of the Branch.

Activities

I. LEGAL

(a) Municipal Bye-Laws

Taking into consideration the growing evil of prostitution and the spread of brothels in the town, the Agra Municipal board passed municipal bye-laws No. 3044/XXX111-20 (31) 47-48 in the year 1947-48. These bye-laws prohibit the residence of prostitutes, playing of their immoral trade in the areas at present occupied by the brothels. The bye-law no doubt was passed in the year 1947, but hardly any action was taken to put it in operation. So for all intents and purposes the said bye-law was lying in the cold storage. We approached the U.P. Government and the Agra Municipal Board and eventually orders were passed for the implementation on the bye-laws. The task of the execution of these bye-laws was entrusted to the health department and they have worked with remarkable enthusiasm and zeal. As a result of which about 900 cases were prosecuted and the rate of convictions is about 80 per cent. As a result of this legal action the number of prostitutes in the known areas has been reduced to some extent and it is hoped that if the present rate of prosecutions is kept up the number of prostitutes will be considerably reduced.

(b) U.P. Children Act, 1951

The question of enforcing the above act was also taken up by the branch. A deputation waited upon Shri K. M. Munshi, the then Governor of U. P. and latter on a deputation waited upon Acharya Jugal Kishore, Minister of Social Welfare U. P. During our submissions besides the enforcement of the above act, many other measures were suggested by us. The government of U. P. has now decided to enforce the said Act at Agra and Vanarasi. The necessary machinery to pave way for the proper enforcement and implementation of the act has been established at Agra. Necessary funds have been sanctioned for the same. The act will help us to rescue minor girls living in brothels or found in moral danger. The enforcement of this act will cut at the root of the problem by cutting the fresh supply.

(c) U. P. Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act

In spite of our repeated requests the U. P. Government has not enforced all the sections and provisions of this act at Agra. Sections 10 and 11 of this act were enforced at Agra in the

year 1937, but no action was taken to implement the same. On our representation some brothels were raided by the police and about 30 minor girls were recovered. But they had to be left off as there was no provision of a rescue home or district shelter at Agra. There is a very urgent need of a rescue home or at least a district shelter at Agra. We hope something will be done by the U. P. Government in this direction.

(d) U. P. Naik Girls Protection Act

Most of the prostitutes at Agra come from a community known as Berias. On our representation the above act has now been made applicable to Beria Community. By the application of this act to this community the District Magistrate has been authorised to order the rescue of the girls belonging to this community found in the danger of exploitation for the purpose of prostitution.

II. HEALTH

The branch submitted a scheme for the opening of one specialised V. D. Clinic at Agra Municipal Board. Shri M. A. Quraishi, I.C.S. the then Administrator Agra Municipal Board accepted the scheme and sanctioned necessary funds for the same. But since the transfer of Mr. Quraishi nothing further has been heard about the scheme. We hope the present Administrator Agra will look to this and implement the scheme already accepted.

III. FAMILY COUNSELLING

The branch drew out a scheme for starting a family counselling centre at Agra. A start has been made on a modest scale. The aim of this centre is to assume a regular function the mission of reconciling husband and wife and avoiding litigation between them. It also seeks to mend marriages and retard drift towards the court. Emphasising preventive rather than curative treatment, its primary aim is to persuade the litigants to ease conditions that have caused tensions between the members of a family. Very few people have made use of the services provided by us, so far, but we hope, slowly this centre will become popular.

It is our hope that the family part, wherein an attempt at reconciliation and a 'cooling of period' are standard procedures should increase the percentage of reconciliations and such a reduction in the family disputes should protect the home and establish a sounder base for mental health.

IV. PUBLICITY & PROPAGANDA

(a) Dramas

The branch staged a drama 'Sex and Society'. This drama was inaugurated by Shri

Harish Chander Sexena I.A.S. the then District Magistrate Agra. The aims and objects of the association were depicted in the show. The function was attended by more than one thousand persons.

(b) Lectures

The branch arranged for the lecture of Prof. M. A. Hakim, Head of the Deptt. of the Psychology and Philosophy St. Johns College, Agra, Shri Pooran Chand, Advocate, Hony. Secy. District Crime Prevention Committee Agra, Shri S. S. Misra, Distt. Probation Officer, Mr. Wajid Hussain, the then Social Welfare Officer, Agra, Mr. Banarsi Lal, Reformation Officer, Agra and the other prominent persons. They spoke on various social welfare problems connected with moral and Social Hygiene.

(c) Agra District Social Welfare Conference

A Conference was convened by the Government in the month of March 1957. Our association was represented by a delegation of 12 persons. A scheme for the establishment of a rescue home was put forward and was endorsed by the conference.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

(a) Crime Prevention

The branch has been actively co-operating with the Distt. Crime Prevention Committee, Agra. Dr. Roshan Singh Sodhi was appointed as Hony. Parole Magistrate (the designation of which has now been changed to Hindi as Hony. Apradh Nirodhik) and is working in this capacity since March 1955. Mr. T. H. Qadari, Advocate, of our branch has been appointed as an non-official Jail Visitor. Besides this Mr. Qadari and Dr. Sodhi are also Moral Preachers of the Jail at Agra.

(b) Epidemic Control

1. With the co-operation of the Asst. Social Welfare Officer, Agra mass I.A.B. Vaccination was given to about two thousand persons in the congested areas of the town where the epidemic was wide spread. The vaccine was donated by Shri J. V. Nathani.

2. During the Virus Influenza, the services of a few doctors and Social workers were placed at the disposal of the District authorities. The work was much appreciated by the then City Magistrate, Agra.

(c) Social Welfare Coordination Committee

Dr. Roshan Singh Sodhi, on behalf of this branch has been taken on the Social Welfare

Coordination Committee established by the government, and has been actively cooperating in all the works undertaken by this committee.

(b) U.N.O. Information

The branch has got itself registered as an Non-government organisation with the U.N.O. information centre and World Health Organisation. The literature received from these bodies is placed at the disposal of members and others who visit the office.

(c) Conclusion

In the end we may mention that with the establishment of the branch of Association for Moral and Social Hygiene at Agra. A new type of social work came into existence and after putting in some labour we did attain some success in checking prostitution and Immoral Traffic. But the nature of work is such that various handicaps and unexpected difficulties appear and crop up from time to time which hamper our progress.

We, however, now hope that with the enactment of Central Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act. and the active help and cooperation of the Central Social Welfare Board, our work will become somewhat easier.

In the end we also record our deep sense of gratitude to the State Government Commissioner Agra Division, Municipal & Police authorities and other Public spirited organisations and individuals for the active help, support and cooperation received from them from time to time.

~~SECRET~~

BOMBAY

BY

Dr. Camilla Da Costa, Hony. Genl. Secy., A.M.S.H., Bombay Branch.

This State Branch of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India which was founded on the 1st of Nov. 1955 with a provisional Committee, held its first meeting of the elected Management Committee on 8th June 1956. The Constitution was passed at a General Body Meeting held earlier on the same day.

It has the following membership: 4 Life Members
57 Ordinary Members
21 Affiliated Societies

Meetings: During the year the Executive Committee met 8 times, the Management Committee 4 times and the General Body twice.

Resignations: In January 1957 Mrs John Matthai who had been President of the State Branch since its inception, resigned as she was leaving Bombay, and Mrs. Gulestan Billimoria, the senior Vice-President, resigned from her office as she was appointed Sherrieff of Bombay, but she continues to be a member of the Management Committee.

Financial position: Although the Bank balance is negligible there are hopes of generous donations forthcoming. The Association is grateful for a donation of Rs. 500/- from the Charity Commissioner, and of Rs. 100/- from the Presidency Magistrates Court.

Activities: The Collection of Data Committee visited the Kamatipura area three times and had personal interviews with a number of prostitutes and eunuchs. Based on this information the Research Committee drew up a questionnaire which was tested in the same area. A Research scheme for the "Survey of the socio-economic conditions of the prostitutes of the Bombay City" involving an expenditure of Rs. 20,000/- was submitted to the Research Programmes Committee of the Planning Commission of the Government of India on March 5th 1957. The Research Plans have been drawn up for an After-Care Institution, a suitable site has been located, valuation reports by Govt. recognised Architect obtained and negotiations are going on with the vendors and the donors.

Meanwhile, case work has been done on a small scale and girls and women rescued with the co-operation of the affiliated societies, namely: Bombay Vigilance Association. St. Catherine's Home and Shraddhanand Ashram and with the help of the vigilance branch of the Bombay Police.

Distinguished Visitor: Mrs. Remeshwari Nehru, President of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India, visited Bombay on the 31st August 1956. This Association arranged for a press conference and two days later a public meeting to which were invited all the members of the Association and prominent social workers of Bombay.

Acknowledgment: This Association is grateful to its past President, Mrs. John Mathai for her valuable and selfless services during the difficult period of the formation of the Bombay State Branch. As a Life Member she continues to take interest in the welfare of the Association.

MYSORE

BY

Dr. Smt. Ratnamma Isaac, Hony. Genl. Secy., A.M.S.H., Mysore Branch.

This pioneer organization began its work in 1929 with the help of some ladies and gentlemen whose aims were

- (a) to uphold the highest in regard to sex relationship ;
- (b) to secure the recognition of an equal standard of morality for men and women ;
- (c) to eradicate prostitution and kindred evils.

Inspired by Deenabandhu C. F. Andrews, Miss Meliscent Shephard, the first Central Organizing Secretary who came to India in 1928 started the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in Bangalore in 1929. The following Ladies and Gentlemen were the early pioneers Dr. D. S. Puttanna, late Rao Bahadur C. B. Rama Rao, Sri C. N. Narasinga Rao. Sri G. K. Baliga, Miss Pillidge, Sri B. V. Narayana Reddy, Dr. D. S. Ramchandra Rao, Rukn-ul-mulk S. Abdul Wajeed, B. A., Miss Potter, Dr. J. V. Karve, Moiu-ul-vizarath A. K. Syed Taj Peeran Sajjada, Justice Shankarnarayan Rao and Mrs. Hasabnis greatly encouraged by Sir Mirza Ismail, the then Dewan, and the late Dewan Bahadur K. Matthan, the late Mr. J. R. Issac, the General Secretary of the Bangalore Y. M. C. A. did sterling work in the initial stages. The Association is deeply indebted to them for this noble social amelioration work.

During the year under report two Finnish ladies offered their free services to the Nursery School and the Orphanage and kindly presented linen and toys and other Nursery equipment. The late Mr. J. R. Isaac with the help and co-operation of late Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan and Sri C. Narasinga Rao was responsible for securing the present site from the Government and weathered the severe financial stress which beset us in the early years. Later on 2nd July 1948, the then Maharaja of Mysore laid the foundation stone of the Ashram which thus owes its existence to benefactors ranging from royalty and Government to eager social workers.

The Abhaya Ashram turns girls rescued from brothels into the paths of virtue and

industry. Starting with a rented building in Chamarajpet, it has grown into the present institution. The strength of the Ashram has grown up from 7 in 1936 to 70 to-day. An extension is sorely needed and an after care hostel for the old girls who have completely given up their old ways and are set on the right path.

In pursuance of the wish of His Highness the Maharaja the Institution serves not only the cause of our fallen sisters but engages in other welfare activities, such as Orphanage, Creche and a Community Centre. We have a Nursery School, a Children's Club and a Gymnasium for children. There is also a Creche Nursery Section and the Milk Centre providing milk for the unfortunate infants and the infants from the nearby slums. The girls mostly rescued from brothels are given vocational training, such as Weaving, Sewing, Mat-weaving, Knitting, Dyeing, Spinning and Printing of cloth in addition to the 3 R's. A trained woman teacher trains them in Needle-work, Crochet, Knitting and Embroidery and a Weaving Master in weaving.

The inmates do their own cooking, washing and other domestic work and at leisure a little gardening. The Industrial Department has provided the Ashram with 12 Ambar Charkas with Instructors and the inmates have taken to spinning with much pleasure. It offers a great incentive in this craft to them. Baby craft also is taught and the inmates have brought up many motherless infants. The girls are also given outings periodically.

Some of the girls who have turned over a new leaf are given in marriage, some sent for training as Midwives, Nurses or Domestic servants while others are given work in the Ashram itself as Nursery School and Creche ayahs for which payment is made.

In addition to these we run a Welfare Centre for the poor children and mothers of the locality. This was opened by Lady Raman on 10th May 1954. Expectant mothers and babies are medically examined once a week by a qualified doctor. A Nursery School for the children of the locality between 3 and 5 years of age is also run in the premises. The orphans of the Ashram share the fellowship of these children.

During the past 21½ years over 1,389 women, girls and orphans have passed through the Ashram.

The following statistic gives the details of admission, etc., during the year 1956 :—

No. of inmates in the Ashram on 1-1-1956	20
„ „ admitted 1-1-1956 to 31-12-1956	124
„ „ restored to their people	84
„ „ taken to Magistrate's Court for trial	68

„ „ given in marriage	1
„ „ treated for V. D.	37
„ „ who left the Ashram on their own accord	12
„ „ babies born	2
„ „ orphans and destitutes admitted by police	17

Summary of the welfare work for a period of 3 years among women and children is given below :

		1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
1. No. of babies weighed and advised	...	115	75	65
2. No. of babies who got milk	...	509	606	351
3. No. of women who attended Ante-natal clinics	...	291	186	301
New cases	...	69	77	70
Repeat cases	...	222	109	231

Family Planning advice is being given on Mondays to all the mothers who come to receive milk, for ante-natal and baby clinics or who come with minor ailments for treatment.

Nursery School—Abhaya Ashram

	Total Admission
4. From 5th May to December 1954	34
„ 1st January to 31st December 1955	34
„ 1st January to 31st December 1956	56

From May 1954 to December 1956 the admissions are 124.

5. Breaches of the "Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act"

The following gives the details of cases launched during the 1956-57 :—

Year	No. of cases charge sheeted	No. of cases ending in Con. Acq. Dis.	No. of cases pending trial.
1956	292	280 6 —	6

Along with the pioneers and other self-sacrificing and self-effacing workers who offer free service mention may be made of the police who raid vice-centres and brothels and

spots like Sampangi Tank Bund, and Markets and Railway Stations; and Hotels and bring these unfortunates for rehabilitation. The Immoral Traffic Act though passed in the year 1936 was actually brought into force in 1940, and has been amended in 1956. In the large majority of cases the punishments are light if not nominal and so have not a deterrent effect. Offences against the Act have a serious effect on the health and welfare of the community ; and the Association takes this opportunity of bringing to the notice of the Government that there is need for the revision of the Act and framing suitable Rules for the guidance of the Courts and the police. The success of the Act depends to a great extent on the vigilance of the police and the co-operation afforded by the public to combat this social evil.

We are grateful to Dr. K. Subramanyam and Dr. Ratnamma Isaac who are Honorary Workers and who evince keen interest in giving injections to the inmates infected with venereal disease and rendering medical aid to mothers and children. Our thanks are also due to Dr. Anantha Rao who supplied free ante-venereal injections and is also interested in the welfare of our girls.

Two events highlighted the activities of the year. Sir M. Visvesvaraiiah the Grand Old Man of Mysore made the valuable and useful gift of a Radio to cheer the inmates of the Ashram. He was also pleased to visit the Institution and switch on the Radio set and on that occasion he gave valuable advice to the inmates and suggested that unless they worked for 8 hours they would not be normally entitled to their food. This has served as an useful impetus to the girls to do their work honestly and efficiently. We are grateful to Sir M. Visvesvaraiiah for his generosity and sound advice.

The second event was the benefit performance for our Ashram given by the Shakesperean's Players. In addition to the money realised it publicised our work with the result that many members have joined us.

The Annual General Body Meeting of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene was held on Wednesday, the 21st March 1956 at 6 p. m. in the Abhaya Ashram buildings and the following Office-bearers were elected, for the year 1956-57 :—

Sri T. Siddalingiah, President

Moin-ul-Vizarath Janab, A.K. Syed Taj Peeran Sajjada. Vice-President.

Dr. Mrs. M. Ratnamma Isaac, Honorary Secretary.

Sri K. Revanna, Honorary Treasurer.

Sm. Indira Bai Vasudevamurthy, Chairman of the Executive Committee.

The following Executive Committee was formed for the year 1956-57 :—

Members

Smt. Rukmaniamma Narasimhiah

Sri P. Sivashankar
Dr. K. B. Bhujanga Rao
Sri B. Krishna
Sri Narayanswami Setti
Sri George Mathan
Sri M. Ramachandra Rao
Miss G. M. Donne
Miss M. E. Robinson
Smt. Shakuntala Krishna
Smt: Balasubramanyam
Smt. Mercy Isaac
Miss Marja Natenaan
Sri Gurumurthy
Sri A. N. Rama Rao
Dr. S. Seshagiri Rao, D. P. H.

The Annual Public Meeting was held on 3rd September 1957 at 6 p. m. in the Abhaya Ashram Dr. Smt. C. V. Shankarambal; F.R.C.S- (Eng.) presided over this meeting. Smt. Vani Sen Gupta, Smt. Mallika Ghosh and Sri P. Kodanda Rao addressed the gathering.

During Deepavali the Hon. Secretary and other lady members went about and did propaganda among the public and collected some money for the Ashram in order to provide clothing for the inmates. As usual Messrs. K. H. Shama Rao & Sons gave ready-made blouses and frocks to all the inmates and babies. We thank these donors for their kind help. The Executive Committee expresses its thanks to Sri N. G. Ayyangar and Sri Yediyoor Venkatakrishna Jois Mrs. Raoof Sait who have become Life Members of the Association this year, i. e. 1956, and hope that more members will soon follow their good examples.

Needle-work and other handicraft made by the Ashram inmates were exhibited in the Dasara Exhibition and these articles found a good sale at the exhibition. The 1956 Annual Reports were distributed to the visitors by way of propaganda.

Income and Expenditure

The Ashram conveys its thanks to Sri S. Raghavendra Rao, Government Certified Auditor who audited the accounts for the year 1956-57. The Financial Statement is appended.

Our Thanks

We cannot close our Annual Report without thanking those who have contributed

to the success of our work in various ways. Our thanks are due to :

1. The Government for their grants.
2. The Indian Red Cross Society, Mysore State Branch for their grant and gift of sarees, 10 blankets, Codliver Oil, Vit-B Complex Tablets and etc., to the Association and Abhaya Ashram and Orphange.
3. The Bangalore City Corporation for their lumpsum grant and we request them to start again their monthly grant of Rs. 50 per mensem to our Welfare Activities newly started.
4. The Central Social Welfare Board for their grant of Rs. 2,000 which enabled us to extend our work regarding Rescue Home and Nursery School.
5. Sri Kuppaswamy Naicker for the installation of the Telephone and Rs. 1,000 towards the construction of the extension of the building and Nursery School.
6. Child Welfare Council for a donation of Rs. 300. The Social Service Volunteers and the Industries Department for having presented each one a Usha Sewing Machine to the Abhaya Ashram.
7. We owe a heavy debt of gratitude to our Honorary Treasurer Sri K. Revanna for his selfless help who first toiled in this field as Honorary Secretary for 2 years and then as Honorary Treasurer since 1943, till today. It will never be forgotten that he has rendered sterling service in connection with the construction of our building and its extensions.
8. The Maharani of Patiala for the kind gift of Rs 150 towards the warm clothing and tonics for the orphans.

We offer our thanks to all our sympathisers, members and donors for their continued support which has made our work possible and of real benefit to our sisters in the Abhaya Ashram and Orphange.

List of Life Members, Subscribers and Donors of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene and the Abhaya Ashram and Orphanage :—

Life Members

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 Diwan Bahadur K.S. Chandrasekhara Iyer | 4 Smt. Narasamma Madhava Rao |
| 2 Diwan Bahadur K.R. Seshachar | 5 Smt. M.A. Srinivasan |
| 3 Pradhana Siromani N. Madhava Rao | 6 Smt. A.J. Chowdry |

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 7 Smt. M.C. Albuquerque | 34 Smt. Malathi Ramakrishna Rao |
| 8 Sri Ramnarayan Chellaram | 35 Shanbhog Subba Rao |
| 9 Dharmaprakasa M.V. Veerappa | 36 Smt. Annapurna Bai |
| 10 Sri Misrilal Parasmal | 37 Smt. R.B. Subramanyam |
| 11 Sri Kishenlal Phoolchand | 38 Smt. Mani |
| 12 Dharmaprakasa L.S. Venkaji Rao | 39 Smt. Sarojamma K.C. Reddy |
| 13 Smt. J.R. Sivasubramanya Iyer | 40 Dr. Cecily Thomas |
| 14 Dharmaprakasa K. Kuppuswamy Naidu | 41 Smt. C.V. Shankarambal |
| 15 Smt. Kuppuswamy Naidu | 42 Smt. Bhagyalakshmi Hanumatha Naidu |
| 16 Sri Easwary Prasad | 43 Smt. Vedamma Ranganna |
| 17 Sri A.C. Seetharam | 44 Sri G. Paramasivaiah |
| 18 Sri H.T.S. Rao | 45 Sri N.G. Ayyangar |
| 19 Smt. H.T.S. Rao | 46 Sri Yediyoor Venkatakrishna jois |
| 20 Smt. Powell | 47 Dharmaprakasa Devarao Shivaram |
| 21 Rai Sahib D.C. Kholy | 48 Smt. Subburayudu |
| 22 Janab Sultan Ali | 49 Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan |
| 23 Messrs. K.H. Shama Rao & Sons | 50 Janab Mirza Azeezulla Baig |
| 24 Sri Perumal Chetty | 51 Smt. Dwarkabai Kadambi |
| 25 Janab B.A. Basith | 52 Sri C. Subramanya Iyer |
| 26 Sri G.E. Hoover | 53 Sri A.M. Sen |
| 27 Smt. Siddamma | 54 Sri Canon Anantham |
| 28 Sri P.N. Chandavarkar | 55 Dr. M.D. David |
| 29 Smt. Chandavarkar | 56 Janab C.A. Kalamy |
| 30 Sri H. Siddappa | 57 Dr. Miss K.S. Captain |
| 31 Smt. Balasubramanyam | 58 Janab Majeed khan |
| 32 Sri Dharma Vir | 59 Mrs. Raoof Sait |
| 33 Sri T.G. Rama Iyer | |

The following Life Members are no more with us and we remember them with gratitude :—

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Dharmaprakasa Devarao Shivaram | 7 Sri A M. Sen |
| 2 Smt. Subburayudu | 8 Sri Canon Anantham |
| 3 Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan | 9 Dr. M.D. David |
| 4 Janab Mirza Azeezulla Baig | 10 Janab C.A. Kalamy |
| 5 Smt. Dwarkabai Kadambi | 11 Dr. Miss K.S. Captain |
| 6 Sri C Subramanya Iyer | 12 Janab Majeed Khan |

(The Life Membership Contributions formed the nucleus of our building fund.)

We are also grateful to all those who have contributed liberally towards the construction of the building :—

	Rs.		Rs.
1 Sajjan Rao Charities (through Sri Mannaji Rao)	.. 5,000	Late Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan	1,000
2 Sri K.N. Guruswamy	.. 2,000	Dr. D.S. Ramachandra Rao (in	
3 Sri K. Easwary Prasad	.. 500	memory of his sister late	
4 Rai Sahib D.C. Kohly	. 500	Subburayudu)	1,060
5 The Bangalore Race Club	. 2,000	Sri Kuppuswamy Naicker	1,000
6 Messrs. Udaya Construction Co.	.. 884		

Subscriptions, Donations and Deepavali Collection

(from January 1956 to September 1957)

	Rs.		Rs.
59 Social & Civic Progress Association	... 60	81 Dr. Mrs. M. Ratnamma Isaac	... 12
60 Sri M.O.T. Chari	... 35	82 Janab Abdul Wajeed	... 12
61 Sri Venkatesalu alias Niranjan	... 30	83 Justice Singaravelu Mudaliyar	... 12
62 Smt. Sharadamma	... 24	84 Sri George Mathan	... 12
63 Mrs. Grace Appaji	... 12	85 Messrs Harianna & Sons	... 12
64 Miss Natenaan	... 12	86 Sm. Mallika Ghosh	... 10
65 Miss Kytosma	... 12	87 Ravi L. Kirloskar	... 10
66 Smt. D.S. Ratnamma	... 12	88 Mrs. Mary Hoover	... 10
67 Smt. Lakshmiddevamma	... 12	89 Sharada Ayyangar	.. 10
68 Modern Embroidery Stores	... 12	90 Prabhaker L. Kirloskar	... 10
69 Sri Bojarajulu & Bros.	... 12	91 Sri Yadalam Subbiah Setty	... 10
70 Sri Muthukumar Mudaliar	... 12	92 Sri Misrilal Parasmall	... 10
71 Sri Manicka Mudaliar	... 12	93 Sri A. Kishinlal Phoolchand	... 10
72 Sri Garla Narayan Chetty	... 12	94 Mr. Lewis Perinbam	... 10
73 Sri Thandava Mudaliyar	... 12	95 Sri K.E. Prasad	... 10
74 Sri Dondusa Duktappa	... 12	96 Smt. Saraswathi	... 10
75 Messrs. Srinivasa Silk Factory	... 12	97 Deaconess Carol Graham	... 10
76 Miss G.M. Donne	... 12	98 Dr. A M. Gade	... 10
77 Miss M.E. Robinson	... 12	99 Sri Chidambara Sastrigal	... 7
78 Sri B.K. Siddalingiah	... 12	100 Mrs. Umabai Bellimal	... 6
79 Kuppiah & Sons	... 12	101 Miss D. Job	... 6
80 Dr. K.S. Subramanyam	... 12	102 Mrs. H. Edwin	... 6

103	Smt. Hemavathiamma	...	5	139	Janab A.K. Syed Taj Peeran Sajjada...	3
104	Sri T. Siddalingiah	...	5	140	Smt. Lalitha Nanjappa	3
105	Dr. Shenoy	...	5	141	Sri Ramdas	3
106	Mr. E.M. Isaac	...	5	142	Smt. Mohini Kadaba	3
107	Smt. Sundaramma Ramachandra Rao	5	143	Mrs. Chandra Bai Venkat Rao	3	
108	Sri P. Kuppuswamy	...	5	144	Mrs. M.K. Thomas	3
109	Smt. Rathnamma Vijayasarithi	...	5	145	Smt. Jayalakshmi	3
110	Miss Mc Narney	...	5	146	Sri K. Revanna	3
111	Sri M.A. Narasimbachar	...	5	147	Sri P. Sivashanker	3
112	Sri C. Rajendra	...	5	148	Sri Jagabhai Dalbat Bhai	3
113	Sri T. Siddabasappa	...	5	149	Dr. Shadaksharappa	3
114	Sri A. Sreekantappa	...	5	150	Mrs. Shadaksharappa	3
115	Sri G. Chowdiah	...	5	151	Smt. Kamalamma	3
116	Sri A. Neelakantiah	..	5	152	Smt. Shanthi Jayashanker	3
117	Sri A. Narasimhiah	...	5	153	Smt. Jaya Ramaswamy	3
118	Sri R.K. Basvaiah & Bros.	...	5	154	Smt. Manorama Murthy	3
119	B. Venkata Rao S. Sajjan Rao	...	10	155	Smt. Jayalakshmi	3
120	Sri B.V. Narayan Reddy	...	5	156	Smt. Masti Venkatesa Iyengar	3
121	Mrs. K.C. Chacko	...	5	157	Smt. Komala	3
122	Mr. G. Matthan	..	5	158	Mrs. David	3
123	Sri P. Subbarama Chettiar	...	5	159	Mrs. Meeking	3
124	Sri K.M. Nanjappa	...	5	160	Smt. Mary	3
125	Mr. Peter	...	5	161	Mr. B. Benjamin	3
126	Dr. Y.N. Krishnamurthy	...	5	162	Sri G. Paul	3
127	St. Lukes Women's Fellowship	...	5	163	Dr. Mrs. R. Christopher	3
128	Smt. Muddamma	...	5	164	Sri A.U. Christopher	3
129	Smt. Arunachalam	...	5	165	Anonymous	3
130	Padmaja Ronur	...	5	166	Mrs. C. Krishnaswamy	3
131	Smt. Lakshmikantha	...	7/8	167	H.S. Ayyangar	3
132	Sri Samuel Appaji	...	4	168	B.S. Raghunandan Prasad	3
133	Mr. Hebbar	...	4	169	Messrs. Sri Maruthi Select Dhoti	
134	Mrs. N. Madhuram	...	4		Stores	3
135	Sri A.N. Rama Rao	...	3	170	Messrs. Aswathnarayaniah & Sons	3
136	Sri Gurumurthy	...	3	171	Smt. R.A.S. Iyengar	3
137	Sri H. Puttuswamy	...	3	172	Sri S.D. Luther	3
138	Smt. Indira Bai Vasudevamurthy	...	3	173	Mrs S. Doraiswamy	3

plus Rs. 5 D.C.

Associate Members

174	Smt. S. Nagaraja Rao	...	2	183	Smt. Taramma	...	1
175	Dr. T. Seshachalam	...	2	184	Smt. Chandra Bai Thirumalraji	...	1
176	Smt. Hanumakka Nanjappa	...	2	185	Sri B.L. Rao	...	1
177	Smt. Lakshminarasamma	...	2	186	Sri Siddappa	...	1
178	Smt. Jayalakshmi	...	2	187	Mrs. G. Paul	...	3
179	Smt. S.R. Seethamma	...	2	188	Mr. Peter	...	5
180	Smt. Bala Subramanyam	...	2	189	Mr. Sreenivasa Rao	...	1
181	Dr. A.C. Devaraj	...	1	190	Seshamahal Pharmacy	...	1
182	Smt. Padma	...	1				

For the feast of the inmates

Smt. Mohini Kadaba	...	Rs. 7
Sri E.M. Isaac		7
Dr. Mrs. M. Ratnamma Isaac	...	25
		on 2 occasions
Mrs. Manorama Murthy	...	10
Sri Yedivoor Venkatakrishna Jois	...	10
Smt. Sheth Jagabahi Dalbatbhai	...	10

Gifts in Kind

K.H. Shamo Rao & Sons		Ready. made garments for all the inmates worth Rs. 89-9-0
Sri G C. Dasappa, Ambika Hall	...	1 Saree
Sri Bojarajalu Naidu	..	2 lbs. Biscuits
Sri A.K. Murthy	...	1 lb. Biscuits
Sri B.T. Ramiah	...	35 Jilabis
Proprietor : Bangalore Cafe		
Sri K.E. Prasad	...	1 viss Sweets
Proprietor : Ananda Bhavan—Sri K.P. Subramani	...	1 Saree
Sri Raghunandan Prasad	...	1 Seer Sweets
Proprietor : Kala Cafe—Sri Vijalakshmi Hall	...	Cotton Saree
Sait Sagarmall Champalall & Co.	...	48 yards of cloth
A.C. Lakshminarayana Chetty	...	One Silk Saree
Satyanarayana Hall	...	1 Cotton Saree
D. Rudriah (Annapurna)	...	One Silk Saree

**Account for the Year Ending
31st March 1957
for
Mysore (Bangalore)**

Association for Moral & Social

Receipts & Payments Account

RECEIPTS		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
ANNUAL GRANTS—							
By The Central Social Welfare Board	...	2,000	0	0			
„ The Bangalore Corporation	...	1,000	0	0			
„ The Council of Child Welfare	...	300	0	0			
„ Grant under Rural Industrialisation Scheme	...	250	0	0			
					3,550	0	0
MONTHLY GRANTS—							
By The Governments of Mysore	...	3,900	0	0			
„ The Director of Industries	...	705	0	0			
„ The Education Department	...	227	8	0			
„ Maintenance Allowance of Ashram (Rescue Home) by the Director of Public Health	...	3,846	3	0			
					8,678	11	0
GENERAL—							
Subscriptions, monthly and yearly	...	...			675	6	0
Life membership fee	...	...			100	0	0
Building Donations	...	...			1,056	4	3
Boarding Charges	...	...			246	10	0
Deepavali Collections	...	...			204	0	0
Telephone Charges realised	...	—			38	8	0
Sale proceeds of articles made in (Rescue Home)	...	...			468	13	6
Fees from Nursery School Children	...	...			450	0	0
Milk Charges	...	...			100	0	0
Sale of a cow born in Ashram	...	...			35	0	0
Interest on Corporation Debenture	...	...			26	4	0
Interest on thrift Deposit	...	...			6	6	0
<i>Carried Forward</i>	...	...			15,635	14	9

Hygiene in Mysore, Bangalore

for the Year Ending 31st March 1957.

PAYMENTS	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
RESCUE HOME—						
Boarding charges of Ashram inmates ...	2,885	11	0			
Clothing of Ashram inmates ...	166	0	0			
Medicine and Medical attendance ...	183	7	0			
Electric Lighting ...	103	14	0			
Excess water charge ...	193	4	0			
Conveyance charges ...	190	4	0			
Purchase and repair of vessels, etc ...	159	14	0			
Books, stationery and printing ...	146	0	9			
Articles for Vocational Training & work of inmates... ..	418	10	3			
Remuneration to inmates as an incentive to Vocational work ...	101	4	0			
Salary of Warden ...	877	0	0			
" Out-door worker ...	285	0	0			
" Weaving Master Instructor ...	300	0	0			
" Clerk ...	480	0	0			
" Peon and Bill Collector ...	444	0	0			
" Teacher of Three R's ...	480	0	0			
Telephone Charges ...	181	7	0			
Conveyance allowance of Honorary Secretary ...	270	0	0			
Miscellaneous ...	237	8	0			
Annual meeting expenses and celebrations ...	95	6	0			
Additions to Building included in Closing Balance ...	3,751	3	6			
				8,288	10	0
NURSERY SCHOOL—						
Salary of Nursery School Teacher ...	800	0	0			
" Ayah ...	120	0	0			
" Peon ...	36	0	0			
				956	0	0
<i>Carried Forward</i> ...	..			9,244	10	6

Association For Moral & Social

Receipts & Payments Accounts

RECEIPTS	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
<i>Brought Forward</i> ...	...	15,635 14 9
Odaya Construction Co.—5% held over for future payment ...	...	187 9 0
Advance from Ashram Matron ...	...	22 7 9
OPENING BALANCE—		
3½% Bangalore Corporation Debenture ...	1,500 0 0	
T.D. Account in the Bank of Mysore Ltd. ...	512 0 0	
C/D Do ...	2,042 7 11	
With Ashram Matron ...	17 0 0	
Advance due from Udaya Construction Co. ...	2,500 0 0	
Furniture and Equipment ...	748 1 2	
Value of Building ...	70,424 6 10	
Deposits with B.P. & L & Water Supply Department ...	76 0 0	
		77,819 15 11
TOTAL ...	...	93,665 15 5

Checked and found correct

Bangalore,

10th September 1957.

Hygiene in Mysore, Bangalore

for the Year Ending 31st March 1957—(concl'd.)

PAYMENTS			Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
	<i>Brought Forward</i>	...	956	0	0	9,244	10	6
Purchase of Mats		...	26	2	0			
Milk		...	384	4	6			
Milk Ayah		...	120	0	0			
Miscellaneous		...	106	6	0	636	12	6
BABYS' CRECHE—								
Midwife's Salary		...	480	0	0			
Baby's nurse salary		...	60	0	0			
Miscellaneous		...	10	3	0	550	3	0
CLOSING BALANCE—								
3½% Bangalore Corporation Debenture		...	1,500	0	0			
T.D. Account with Bank of Mysore		...	18	6	0			
C/D Account do		...	6,511	3	11			
Due from Honorary Secretary		...	200	0	0			
Due from Peon Channiah		...	5	0	0			
Furniture & Equipment		...	748	1	2			
Value of Building :	70,424	6 10						
Additions during the year	3,751	3 6						
			74,175	10	4			
Deposit with B.P. & L. & Water Supply Department		...	76	0	0	83,234	5	5
TOTAL			...	...	...	93,665	15	5

(Sd) S. RAGHAVENDRA RAO,

Restricted State Auditor, Bangalore.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. *Dr. Mrs. D. D. Chacko*

Suggested that blood tests for syphilis should be done on all pregnant women so that they may receive proper treatment.

2. *Mrs. Urmī G. Shah*

Thought that abolition of ignorance, education of Ethical philosophy, encouraging co-education and abolition of Mal-adjustments by creating a healthy attitude of society should be introduced.

3. *Dr. Bina Dey*

Suggested that all women and children should be made literate and vocational training should be imparted to a prostitute who is to be rehabilitated.

4. *Smt. Jayshri Raiji*

Recommended for the employment of women police squad, for organising an Employment Bureau to train matrons, nurses, shorthand and typewriting, teachers, domestic servants etc. She also pressed for removal of conflicting laws and for proper implementation of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, model rules relating to the act be drafted by A. M. S. H. I.

5. *Smt. P. N. Numan*

Suggested to introduce sex education for the elders as well as in High Schools for girls and boys.

6. *Smt. Sarala Sheth*

Suggested to have properly trained workers who could easily tackle the difficult cases of the rescued women.

7. *Smt. Keshubhai Valia and Sh. Wikram Cishore Buch*

Suggested that the voluntary agency should be given good deal of latitude in every respect and the Superintendents of the homes should be under the discipline of the managing Committee and Committee should be given power to administer funds.

8. *Dr. Roshan Singh Sodhi*

Proposed for a quarterly magazine to be started.

9. *Mrs. K. Dutt*

Proposed to form a committee of experienced workers and social scientists to chalk out a programme of survey, research and make it their business to give a fillip to Rescue Work throughout the country to consider legal aspects and to find out problems of Inter State rescue work to make easy and possible.

10. *Mr. Ramesh Chandra*

Requested that trained social workers should be absorbed in the services.

(ii) Grants should be given to all the branches for publications of necessary literature.

(iii) General public should be imparted knowledge about V. D. through institutions.

(iv) Blood examination and medical examination should be introduced for both men and women who are in services.

(v) Social workers should be helped and treated sympathetically by Magistrates as well as by other authorities.

11. *Sh. Bhattacharyya*

Suggested that in order to improve rescue Homes Managing Committee should consist of majority of ladies and secretaries of the Homes should always be a lady.

12. *Mrs. Kusum Maluste*

Asked for more branches ought to be set up in Bombay State and also submitted the line of approach of their preventive committee (A.M.S.H. Bombay).

13. *Dr. Mrs. Jyotsana Shah*

Giving an example of her experiences showed that the lack of any scheme of rehabilitation of these women who come for the third or the fourth time just delivering illegitimate children does not solve the problem. The social economic rehabilitation of these women should begin with the pre-natal work itself.

14. *Mrs. Leela P. Menon*

Asked A.M.S.H.I. to appeal to all the State Govts. that the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and girls Act. is to be made applicable by necessary notification.

BIHAR

BY

Mrs. S. Bhattacharya

The Bihar State Branch of the Association was started in the year 1953 and has been steadily working in the field inspite of many handicaps.

Mrs. Shanti Kabir, the then Secretary of All India Association of Moral & Social Hygiene visited Patna in December, 1956 and while addressing a general meeting stressed upon the need of planning in various branches of social work. The above talk had the desired effect and a new committee was elected in early 1957. This committee decided to have definite plan of work before it which could be carried out with its limited resources.

It was felt that the first item of work should be to propogate the aims and objects of the Association among general public in order to arouse their consciousness about the social evils, so that they can realise the seriousness of the clossal problem of prevention of immoral traffic in women which is gradually increasing not only in the shape of increased number of prostitution but also in the garb of so called Ashrams and Anathalayas which are carrying on the trade secretly.

As a first step towards popularisation of aims a folder containing the main aims of the Association was printed in Hindi and English and distributed judiciously to various social workers and organisations. The aid of journalists was also secured for this purpose. New members were enrolled and during the course of 1957, some 70 members have been enrolled.

The second step was the formation of new units and branches of the Association in different parts of the State. An Assistant Organising Secretary was appointed who has been constantly moving and contacting people for this work. It is encouraging to note that four District Branches at Arrah, Gaya, Monghyr and Dinapur have already been established and a few others are in the process of formation in the near future.

Another important work undertaken by the Association was the collection of data about prostitutes and to make a survey of the conditions of all such Homes where women are

given shelter. The Assistant Organising Secretary is collecting data about prostitutes with the help of Police and other agencies, and a Sub-committee consisting of lady members has been appointed to visit the 'Homes' and report about their existing conditions, management etc. A Proforma for collection of data was prepared and forwarded to various 'Homes' for favour of filling and return. The work at Patna is quite satisfactory so far. A list of all the prostitutes in Patna along with the report of their condition of living has already been prepared and the following Homes have been visited so far :

1. Bihar Prantiya Anath Abla Ashram (Patna City)
2. Bhartiya Mahila Ashram (Mahendru, Patna)
3. Hindu Orphan & Widows' School (Kunkun Singh Lane, Patna)
4. Nari Kalyan Mandir (Kankarbagh Road, Patna)

All the District Branches have been directed to take up the work of survey in their own respective areas and it is hoped that after some time the Association will be in a position to publish all the data collected for general information.

Inspite of our great anxiety, we have not been able to take up 'Rescue work' as yet for want of a suitable 'Shelter' or 'Rescue Home' where the rescued women may be kept safely and find a real shelter ; where they are not sold away to intending customers against their wish. It was proposed by some of the members of the Association that the 'Association' should have a 'Rescue Home' of its own, but in the Executive meeting on April 6, 1957, at Raj Bhawan, under the Presidentship of the then Governor Shri R.R. Diwakar, the matter was discussed in detail. The Committee felt that the Association at present is not in a position to take up the responsibility. Moreover, there is a proposal of starting such 'Home' by the Central Social Welfare Board, which will serve the purpose and there is no need of duplication of work. It was however, decided that some of the members of the Association, may get themselves registered as a separate body and start a 'Home' for rescued women on proper lines.

In the pursuance of the resolution, some members have started a 'Home' known as 'Nari Kalyan Mandir' which is being run under the auspicious of the Association. This 'Home' was visited by Lady Rama Rao and Shrimati Khatoon Qumrain during their recent visit to Patna in the month of November, 1957. Some officers of the Education Department (Bihar) also visited the 'Mandir'.

The local Sub-committee during the course of its visit to one of the 'Homes' was requested by some of the inmates very earnestly to take them out of that 'Home' and keep them at a safer place. The Committee informed the District Magistrate and the Inspector

General of Police about this matter. Prompt action was taken and three girls were rescued and admitted in the 'Nari Kalyan Mandir' and a case has been instituted against the manager of the particular Home. Total number of women rescued from undesirable Homes so far is 5 who have been admitted in Nari Kalyan Mandir.

The Association very strongly feels that in order to improve the existing conditions of all these 'Homes' for women, run by non-official agencies, there should be a legislation for the following :--

1. That the Managing Committee of these 'Homes' should consist of majority of ladies.
2. That the Secretary of a 'Home' for women should always be a lady social worker.
3. No undesirable male members should be allowed to visit these 'Homes'.

It would also be helpful if a permanent Sub-committee of the Moral & Social Hygiene Association be constituted for the purpose of visiting such organisations. These Sub-committees should visit these Homes frequently and report about the conditions.

We are trying to implement some of the suggestions in our own State. The work is difficult, no doubt, but we feel that this good cause will get co-operation from all concerned.

पंजाब शाखा

श्रीमती पुष्पा गुजराल

१९५५ से लेकर १९ मार्च १९५८ तक लड़कियों की आने जाने की रिपोर्ट

७.२.१९५५ से १०.८.१९५५ तक निरीक्षण किया उन ६ महिलाओं में ३०० केसों की देख भाल की जो कि अलग २ मुहल्लों में थे ।

२८.८.१९५५ में होम में पहली लड़की आई इस के पश्चात इसी साल १७ लड़कियां और ५ बच्चे आये ।

(इसी साल ही हमने १३ लड़कियां और ४ बच्चे भेज दिये) जिनमें से ६ लड़कियां तो कोर्ट के आर्डर से अपने पतियों के पास भेज दी गईं ५ लड़कियां कोर्ट के आर्डर से अपने माता पिता के पास भेज दी और २ लड़कियों को कोर्ट ने उन पुरुषों के पास भेज दिया जो कि उन से बदकारी करवाते थे क्योंकि उन की उमर १८ साल से ऊपर थी । ४ बच्चे भी इन्हीं लड़कियों के साथ अपने माता पिता के पास भेज दिये गये ।

१९५६ में ५३ लड़कियां और ७ बच्चे आये ।

इसी साल हमने ३४ लड़कियां और ३ बच्चे भेज दिये ।

जिन में से १४ लड़कियों को तो कोर्ट के आर्डर से माता पिता के पास भेज दिया ३ लड़कियां मिस थापर के कहने के अनुसार उनके माता पिता को दे दी गईं । १३ लड़कियों को कोर्ट के आर्डर से अपने पतियों के पास भेजा गया, ३ लड़कियों को कोर्ट ने उन पुरुषों के साथ भेज दिया जो के इनसे बदकारी करवाते थे । क्योंकि इन लड़कियों की उमर १८ साल से ऊपर थी, ३ बच्चे भी इनकी माता के साथ भेज दिये गये ।

एक लड़के को पंजकूले पढ़ने के लिये भेजा गया और एक लड़की को सेवा सदन में नौकरी पर लगाया गया ।

१९५७ में ३६ लड़कियां आईं ।

इसी साल २५ लड़कियों को भेज दिया गया, इन में से १० लड़कियां तो कोर्ट के आर्डर से पति के पास भेज दी गईं और ११ लड़कियां कोर्ट के आ २ से माता पिता के पास भेज दी गईं ।

१९५७ को हम ने ३ लड़कियों को मिडल पास करवाया जो कि आगे चौथी क्लास पास थी एक लड़की को पुलिस में नौकरी दिलवाई। ५ बच्चे भी इनकी माता के साथ भेज दिये गये।

१९५८ में ६ लड़कियां आई।

इन में से २ लड़कियां अपने माता पिता के पास कोर्ट के आर्डर से भेज दी गई। २ लड़कियां को अपने पति के पास भेज दिया गया। और २ लड़कियों की शादी कर दी गई।

१९५५ से लेकर १६ मार्च १९५८ तक ११८ लड़कियां नारी निकेतन में आईं।

अब नारी निकेतन जालन्धर में, १६ लड़कियां हैं। और १७ लड़कियां अमृतसर नारी निकेतन में भेजी गईं।

१ १४.३.१९५८ को नारी निकेतन में शिशु पालन के लिये भी स्थान खोला गया है।

२ लड़कियाँ जो आर्डर का काम करतीं उन के काम का ४०० रुपया आज तक इकट्ठा हुआ है। जो लड़कियां नारी निकेतन में आती हैं उन में तो कुछ ऐसी आती है जिन को खाना भी बनाना नहीं आता उनको खाना बनाना भी सिखाया जाता है। और साथ इन को अच्छर ज्ञान और सिलाई भी सिखाई जाती है।

३ साथ ही नारी निकेतन में एक बच्चों का क्लब भी खोला गया है जिस में ८० बच्चे प्रतिदिन आते हैं इन बच्चों को कई प्रकारकी खेलें भी करवाई जाती हैं और दूध भी इन को दिया जाता है।

४ नारी निकेतन में महीनों में चार बार मंगल सभा भी लगाई जाती है। जिसमें बहुत सी बहिनें भाग लेती हैं। और हमारी लड़कियां भी इसी मंगल सभा में भाग लेती हैं।

लड़कियों का दैनिक कार्यक्रम जिसके अनुसार इन को काम करवाया जाता है।

समय पत्रक

५ से ५½ तक शौचादि

५½ से ६½ रामायण का पाठ

६½ से ७ तक चाय

७ से ८ तक होम की सफाई

८ से ८½ तक चर्खा

८½ से ९ तक लड़कियों की अपनी सफाई

९ से ९½ तक खाना

९½ से १ बजे तक पढ़ाई

१ से २ तक विभ्राम नारता
२ से ५ तक आर्बर का काम
५ से ५½ ,, चाय
५½ से ६ ,, बागबानी
६ से ७½ ,, खेलें
७½ से ८ ,, साथ प्रार्थना
८ से ८½ ,, साथ खाना

फिर लड़कियों की जैसी भी इच्छा हो उसी के अनुसार रात के १० बजे तक काम करती हैं ।

DELHI

BY

Mrs. Kasturi B. Narain Hon. Gen. Secretary A.M.S.H. Delhi branch.

As regards the present position of the prostitution in the Capital, I may mention that the number of prostitutes in specific brothels of G.B. Rd. and Kath Bazar, is on the decline while this vice is on the increase in the public localities as it is evident from the facts given below.

Year	No. of prostitutes in the brothels of G.B. Rd. & Kath Bazar.	No. of public localities.	No. of clandestine & promiscuous
1950	612	10	720
1955	547	5	over 1000

The above data was collected by the social worker of the Samiti in 1950 and later on in the year 1955, this data was again made up-to-date.

The houses of vice in the Capital are located in Kath Bazar and G.B. Rd. There are 160 rooms or shops in Kath Bazar where these prostitutes operate while at G.B. Road, there are 87 flats which are occupied by the prostitutes or by the brothel keepers and 387 women and girls function as prostitutes in the said flats.

As for as the question of V.D. control is concerned I have to state that there is no regular system of medical check-up of these prostitutes either by the Delhi Municipal Committee or by the State Health Department. However there are following three places where some facilities for V.D. patients are available :—

1. V.D. Clinic, of D.M.C. at Jama-Masjid.
2. V.D. Section, in Irwin Hospital, Delhi.
3. V.D. Training centre, Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi.

The system of registration of prostitutes does not exist in Delhi, however police of the police station concerned maintain an un-official register for his own convenience.

As regards the 'Rescue' scheme we may state that the main agencies for this work are Police and the social workers of the Samiti. After rescuing, these girls are admitted in Nari Niketan which is a Government Rescue Home managed by official and non-official Board. Rehabilitation facilities are provided by the Home.

Central Social Welfare Board and Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, has sanctioned an After-Care Home to the Samiti.

Hope you will find the above information in order and Annual Report for 1956-57 is also enclosed herewith.

नारी रक्षा समिति, दिल्ली

नैतिक तथा सामाजिक स्वास्थ्य संघ की स्थानिक संस्था नारी रक्षा समिति दिल्ली का जन्म सन १९४६ ई० में निम्नलिखित उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति हेतु हुआ था।

१—वैसी स्त्रियों और बालिकाओं की जो कि बलात्कार या बहकाने से व्यभिचार में फँस गईं हों और कुत्सितमार्ग को छोड़कर स्वस्थ जीवन व्यतीत करना चाहती हों। यथा सम्भव सहायता करवा।

२—दुराचार से बचाई गईं बहनों के रहने के लिये सुरक्षित स्थान का प्रबन्ध तथा उनकी यथोचित शिक्षा का आयोजन करना।

३—वेश्यावृत्ति और व्यभिचार के विरुद्ध जनता को जागृत करना तथा उनकी रोक थाम के लिये उनसे आर्थिक या अन्य सभी सहयोग व सहायता प्राप्त करना। तथा अश्लील साहित्य के प्रकाशन तथा उनकी बिक्री का विरोध करना।

१—स्त्रियों तथा बालिकाओं को नैतिक पतन से बचाना तथा समाज में उनका पुनर्वास

पिछले ७ वर्षों में समिति द्वारा ६६५ बालिकाएँ नैतिक पतन से बचाई गईं। तथा समाज में उनका पुनर्वास यथा स्थान किया गया। जनवरी सन् १९५७ ई० से नवम्बर सन् ५७ तक समिति के कार्यालय में ७६ केस सूचित किये गये। जिनका विवरण इस प्रकार है।

२४ स्त्रियां तथा बालिकाओं को गुन्डों के चंगुल से बचाकर १६ को नारी निकेतन में प्रवेश कराया तथा ४ को उनके सम्बन्धियों को सौंप दिया। १ कोर्ट द्वारा छोड़ दी गई। २८ केस हमारे समाज सेवकों द्वारा यथा स्थान निबटाए गये। १५ केस पुलिस को उचित कार्यवाही को भेजे। जिनमें ११ में उन्होंने उचित कार्यवाही की। ५ केस जिनमें कुछ सारांश नहीं था छोड़ दिये। शेष ११ केसों में अभी कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की गई। ये सब केस बेरयालयों में रक्खी हुई लड़कियों के हैं।

२—आश्रम स्थापित कराना।

हमें यह सूचित करते हुये हर्ष होता है कि भारत सरकार में गृह मंत्रालय ने नारी रक्षा समिति को निराश्रित बहनों की शिक्षा तथा पुनर्वास के हेतु एक आश्रम की स्वीकृति दी है। यहां यह बता देना भी अनुचित न होगा कि नारी निकेतन जिसकी स्थापना नारी रक्षा समिति ने सन् १९५० में की थी देहली सर-

कार ने सन् १९५५ में अपने हाथ में ले लिया था जो सफलता पूर्वक चल रहा है। जिसका प्रबन्ध एक आफिशल तथा नौन आफिशल बोर्ड द्वारा होता है।

३—जनता को वैश्यावृत्ति के विरुद्ध शिक्षित तथा जागृत करने का कार्य।

जनता को वैश्यावृत्ति के विरुद्ध शिक्षित तथा जागृत करने के उद्देश्य से समिति ने समस्त नगर को २० भागों में बांटा हुआ है। प्रत्येक भाग जो कि भौन कहलाता है वहां पर समाज सेवकों तथा दूसरे प्रतिष्ठित कार्यकर्ताओं की एक कमेटी जौनल इन्चार्ज के अधीन इस कार्य को करती है। पिछले चार कमेटियां ऐसे स्थानों पर दृष्टि रखती हैं जो कि वैश्यावृत्ति के लिये प्रयोग किये जाते हैं। तथा वैश्यावृत्ति से सम्बन्धित आफड़े एकत्रित करने का कार्य भी करती है। पिछले वर्ष समिति ने इस समस्या पर विचार करने के लिये एक वार्षिक सम्मेलन का आयोजन किया। जिसका उद्घाटन २ अप्रैल १९५५ को भारत सरकार के गृह मन्त्री श्री गोविन्द बल्लभ पंत ने किया था और एक सार्वजनिक सभा श्री बी० एन० दातार मन्त्रि भारत सरकार की प्रधानता में ८ दिसम्बर सन् ५६ में हुई थी। जिसके अतिरिक्त समिति चल चित्रों-पोस्टरों तथा तसवीर आदि की प्रदर्शनियों द्वारा वैश्यावृत्ति तथा गुप्त रोगों के विरुद्ध जनता को शिक्षित तथा जागृत करती है। इस वर्ष समिति ने इस प्रकार के चल चित्रों का आयोजन काठ बाजार के वैश्यालय तथा पटेल नगर क्षेत्र में किया। और एक प्रदर्शनी पटेल नगर आयोजित की गई थी। जिसका उद्घाटन ४ मई १९५७ ई० को हमारी प्रधानता श्रीमति रामेश्वरी नेहरू ने किया था।

नवम्बर सन् ५७ में समिति ने नशा वन्दि प्रदर्शनी के साथ साथ अपनी भी नैतिक तथा सामाजिक स्वास्थ्य प्रदर्शनी का आयोजन किया। यह प्रदर्शनी १७ नवम्बर से २४ नवम्बर सन् ५७ तक दंगल ग्राउन्ड आज़ाद पार्क कम्पनी बाग में आयोजित की गई। जिसका उद्घाटन श्री मौरारजी देसाई वाणिज्य मन्त्री के कर कमलों द्वारा हुआ था। इस प्रदर्शनी को देखली तथा बाहर से आने वाले लगभग ७५ हजार नागरिकों ने देखा तथा सबने इसकी बड़ी प्रशंसा की। प्रदर्शनी को श्री ए० डी० पंडित चीफ कमिशनर देहली श्री बी० एन० दातार गृह मन्त्री भारत सरकार श्री देवर भाई कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष श्री ब्रजचन्द चांदी वाला श्रीमती सावित्री निगम श्री राधारमन एम० पी० ने देखा तथा उन्होंने अपनी २ राय सुभाव हमारे रजिन्टर बुक में लिखा।

अश्लील साहित्य के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही

पिछले वर्ष समिति के समाज सेवकों ने सी० आई० डी० काइमस ब्रांच के आफिसर की सहायता से ओबसीन चित्र बेचने वाले दुकानदारों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही कराई इनमें से ३ को सख्त सजाएं तथा एक पर जुर्माना हुआ। इसके परिणाम से विक्रेता ऐसी पुस्तक बेचने से डरते हैं।

फिल्म शो

७ अक्टूबर सन् ५७ को समिति ने डिलाइट सिनेमा होल दिल्ली में एक सामाजिक बन्धन नाम का चल चित्र धन एकत्रित करने हेतु दिखाया। जिसमें काफी सफलता प्राप्त हुई।

पर्वतीय प्रदेश में वैश्यावृत्ति

श्रीमती कमलेन्दुमति शाह, उप-प्रधान, अ० भा० नै० एवं सा० स्वा० संघ०

सबको भली प्रकार विदित है कि आज समाज में भ्रष्टाचार इत्यादि बुराईयां घटने के स्थान में कितनी अधिक बढ़ तथा फैल गई हैं। उनमें सब से अधिक कष्टदायक, लज्जा जनक तथा घृणित, महिलाओं का उदर पूर्ति के हेतु तथा पुरुष की काम बासना तृप्त करने के लिये वैश्यालय खोल कर व्यवसाय करना है। मुझे यह लिखते हुये बड़ा खेद होता है कि इसकी लगभग शत प्रति शत जिम्मेदारी पुरुषों पर पड़ती है। यदि आज पुरुष अपनी पत्नी के अतिरिक्त अन्य महिलाओं को अपनी मां, बहिन तथा बेटा समझने लगे तो यह घृणित प्रथा भारत से एक ही सप्ताह के भीतर निर्मूल की जा सकती है। चीन में एक ही दिन में बड़े नगरों के वैश्यालय बंद किये गये थे।

अपनी मां बहिन, बेटा पर यदि कोई व्यक्ति कुदृष्टि करता है तो कितना असह्य हो जाता है। यही विचार भी पर स्त्री इच्छा करने से बचा सकता है। जैसा कि कई बार हुआ भी है कि भारत और पाकिस्तान के विभाजन के पश्चात जब भारतीय महिलायें भारत लौटाई गईं तो उन्हें समाज के डर से अशुद्ध समझ कर पतियों तथा अन्य गृह जनों ने उन्हें अगीकार नहीं किया। जिसके परिणामस्वरूप जब उन्हें वैश्यावृत्ति का आश्रय लेना पड़ा और संयोग वश जब उनके पती ही जिन्होंने उन्हें त्याग दिया था, उनके पास गये तो एक हृदय विदारक दृश्य उपस्थित हो गया। अतः हमें इन बहिनों को अपना कर तथा भविष्य की बालिकाओं को इस यन्त्राणा से बचाना है और उसमें पुरुषों का पूरा सहयोग पाने के लिये मेरा उनसे सविनय अनुरोध है।

मैं मानती हूँ कि कई स्त्रियां चंचल प्रवृत्ति की होती हैं परन्तु उन्हें पुरुषों द्वारा यदि निरुत्साहित किया जाये तो इस वृत्ति को बहुत कुछ घटाया जा सकता है परन्तु यथार्थ में होता क्या है कि पग पग पर, बाजारों की गलियों के प्रत्येक स्थान पर ऐसे पुरुष मिलते हैं जो आंख के एक इशारे से आगन्तुक को समझा देते हैं कि उसकी इच्छा क्षण भर में कहां व कैसे पूरी की जा सकती है। यह काम अधिक तर पुरुष करते हैं। यद्यपि कहीं कहीं प्रौढ़ स्त्रियां भी होती हैं मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि यदि आज पुरुष इस कार्य को त्यागने का मन में दृढ़ संकल्प करले तो इसे निर्मूल करना असाध्य नहीं है क्योंकि केवल विधान बनाने से कदापि काम नहीं चल सकता, सब से नैसर्गिक तथा फलदायक विधान तो जन समुदाय के हृदय के भाव को बदलना है और उसे बदलने के लिये विचार और विवेक की परम आवश्यकता है जो मनुष्य बोधि की एक विशेषता है।

हमने इस संसार में मनुष्य बन कर जन्म लिया क्या यह उचित तथा सुख दाई है कि यह जन्म पाकर हम केवल छल, कपट, करके दूसरों को कष्ट पहुँचा कर अपनी इन्द्रियों को क्षणिक सुख पहुँचाने का साधन जुटायें। यदि हम सच्चे और शान्त हृदय से विचार करके देखें तो क्या हमारा मन गवाही देगा कि इस प्रकार के कृत्यों से हमें सचमुच स्थाई सुख, शान्ति और आराम मिल सकता है। कदापि नहीं। एक चोर अपने शरीर और मन तथा परिवार को सुख पहुँचाने के लिये चोरी करता है परन्तु क्या वह अपने को सुखी मान सकता है जब उसे प्रत्येक क्षण पकड़े जाने का भय बना रहता है। एक मदिरा पान करने वाला क्या वास्तव में सुखी हो सकता है? जब नशा उतरने पर और पीने की आवश्यकता होती है तो जब तक अपने पास धन है तक तक तो केवल अपने शरीर तथा धन का नाश करता है, परन्तु जिसके पास धन न होने पर भी उसे पीने की लत पड़ जाती है वह तो अपने परिवार को भूखा मार कर या चोरी करके पीता है और इस प्रकार सर्वनाश कर डालता है। यही स्थिति एक वैश्यागामी की है क्या वह यथार्थ में अपने को सुखी बना सकता है? घर में पत्नी बच्चे दाने दाने को तरसते हैं। जब कि वह घर के बरतन कपड़े बेच कर भी वैश्या गमन करता है। इस प्रकार के व्यवहार का आश्रय लेकर हम अपना सर्वनाश तथा अपनी आत्मा का हनन क्यों कर रहे हैं। यदि हम एक बार यह विचारने का प्रयत्न करेंगे तो सम्भव है दयामय हमारी दुबुद्धि हरण कु करके हमें सुबुद्धि प्रदान करेंगे। क्यों कि जो प्रयत्न करता है उसके सहायक प्रभु होते हैं वे उसके मन को शक्ति और उत्साह से भर देते हैं। जब कि एक चोर, जुगारी, तसनी और वैश्यागामी अपने को सदैव हतोत्साह और खोया खोया सा पाता है और अपने मन की यह जलन भुलाने के लिये उसे दुराचारों में अपने को डुबा देता है। जिससे उसे इसका स्मरण भी नहीं हो पाये कि वह क्या कर रहा है। क्या मनुष्य जन्म पाकर हमारा यही कर्तव्य रह जाता है कि हम अपना विवेक ही खो दें और हमें यह विचार करने की शक्ति ही न रहे कि हम किधर जा रहे हैं। हमें कुमार्गों में जाने से रोकने के लिये हमारी अन्तरात्मा की ध्वनि है जो हमारे द्वारा कुछ अनुचित कार्य होते ही हमारे अन्दर गूँज उठती है यदि हम मजाक में भी कुछ असत्य कह बैठते हैं तो तुरंत यह आवाज हमें सचेत करती है कि सम्हल जाओ। क्या कह रहे हो इस परम उत्तम मित्र को कुण्ठित करना तथा इसकी और ध्यान न देना क्या उचित है आज देश भर में क्या इसका यह परिणाम नहीं निकल रहा है कि ६० प्रतिशत व्यक्तियों को पर्याप्त मात्रा में भोजन वस्त्र तक नहीं मिल पाता है और इन भूखों का रक्त चूसने वालों के पास भी स्वास्थ्य सुख और शान्त चित नहीं है। वह तो किसी भी साधन द्वारा अपने धन की मात्रा को दुगुनी करने तथा उसकी रक्षा करने में ही व्यस्त है क्या वे वास्तव में धनी हैं? क्या वे वास्तव में सुखी हैं? मेरे विचार में तो वे गरीबों से कहीं हेंय है क्योंकि उनकी तो लोभ ने यह सोचने की संज्ञा भी हर ली है कि यह सब जुटा कर वे कहां ले जायेंगे जब एक दिन शीघ्र ही अपना शरीर तक यहीं छोड़ना पड़ेगा तब अनुचित साधनों द्वारा जुटाया हुआ धन तो केवल एक भ्राप ही है। जिसकी रक्षा में न दिन को भूल है न रात को नींद है। अतः इन सब तथ्यों व बुराइयों पर जिनको त्यागने को सभी धर्म कहते हैं यदि हम कुछ काल के लिये भी विचार कर सकें तो हमारे भाग्यदोष हो जायेंगे अन्यथा हमारा नाश अनिवार्य है। क्या हमें यह विचार भी कुमार्ग में जाने से नहीं रोक सकेगा कि जब हमारे कुटुम्ब जनों का, जिनके लिये हम ये माया जोड़ रहे हैं तथा अपना इस पाप की कमाई से एक दिन नाश हो जायेगा तो फिर यह प्रयत्न किसके लिये कर रहे हैं।

अतः मेरा भारतीय सन समूह से यही अनुरोध है कि विवेक और विचार का अवसर न गंवायें। ईश्वर से प्रार्थना है कि वह दयामय हमारे सामने सीधा सच्चा मार्ग निर्देश करके हमें सही रास्ते पर जाने के लिये बल दे और कुविचारों से हमारी रक्षा करें क्योंकि सर्व दुःख का मूल कुविचार ही है।

अब मैं कुछ अपने विचार तथा मुझसे व्यक्त करती हूँ जिससे विशेष कर भारत के पर्वतीय प्रदेशों की, महिलाओं की वैश्यावृत्ति से रक्षा की जा सके :—

वैश्या व्यवसाय के हेतु बंछा जाने वाली महिलाओं की रक्षा, उनके भविष्य में शान्तिपूर्ण जीवन बिताने तथा उनको शिक्षित कर के उनके लिये मुरझा गूढ़ खोलने की सरकार व्यवस्था कर रही है।

मैं भली भाँति जानती हूँ कि सरकार का ध्येय, विविध योजनाओं का आरम्भ करके केवल देश और जनता के कल्याण का रहा है, खेद यही है कि कतिपय धन लोलुप्य व्यक्ति इस प्रकार की कल्याणकारी योजनाओं को भ्रष्टाचार का रूप दे देते हैं। टिहरी तथा गढ़वाल के कुछ स्थानों में भी इस प्रकार के कतिपय व्यक्तियों का हाथ है। जिनसे सरकार अवगत होगी ही—अतः इन व्यक्तियों द्वारा दुरुपयोग होने से इन योजनाओंको बचाना पहला कर्तव्य हो जाता है।

१. भाली भाली प्रामाण्य युवतियों को भालि-भालि के लालच में डालकर अन्य शहरों में लाकर उनका विक्रय करने वाले दुष्टों को अधिकतम दण्ड देना परम आवश्यक है।

२. दोनों गढ़वालों से नगरों व मैदानी क्षेत्रों में आने जाने वाले जो मार्ग हैं जैसे कोटद्वार, दुहड़ुठा, लालदांग, गोहरी घाट, लक्ष्मण भूला, अतिकेश, नरेन्द्रनगर, नैनीताल, काठगोदाम, रामनगर, टनकपुर, चक्रावा और मसूरी इन स्थानों में नाकाबन्दी करने के लिये एक गुप्त चर नियुक्त किया जाना चाहिये। इस दल में यदि शिक्षित महिलायें ली जायें तो और भी अधिक लाभ होगा।

३. यदि किसी व्यक्ति विशेष के विषय में कुछ शिकायत सरकार तक पहुँचे तो उसकी जांच आवश्यक होनी चाहिये।

४. कोई घटना घट जाने पर उनका निर्णय शीघ्र ही उच्च न्यायालय में होना चाहिये क्योंकि थाने वाले भी इन लाई हुई युवतियों से दुर्य्यवहार करते हैं।

५. इस जिलों की दोनों गढ़वाल पुलिस में स्त्रियों को ले जा कर इस प्रकार के कार्य का भार उनके जिम्मे दिया जाना चाहिये।

६. जिले से बाहर जाने वाले जो साथ में स्त्रियों १० वर्ष से अधिक आयु वाली अथवा बालिकाओं ४ वर्ष से अधिक आयु वालों को ले जा रहे हों उनके पास ग्राम सभा प्रधान, सरपंच तथा पटवारी के हस्त-लिखित हस्ताक्षर किये हुए प्रमाण पत्र होने चाहिये।

७. जो व्यक्ति स्त्री या बालिका को जिला से बाहर ले जा रहा हो उसके लिये अधिकारियों को यह बतलाना आवश्यक होना चाहिये कि वह उन्हें किस कारण बाहर ले जा रहा है और कितनी अवधि के अन्दर लौटा कर ले आयेगा ।

८. इन जिलों की स्त्रियों तथा बालिकाओं को बाहर रहने की अवधि भी निश्चित कर दी जानी चाहिये, क्योंकि कोई भी भद्र महिला, विशेषकर गढ़वाली पर्वतीय प्रदेश की, अधिक काल तक अपने घर से बाहर रहना कदापि न चाहंगी ।

९. इन महिलाओं की अवधि, यदि तीर्थ यात्रा हो तो, दो माह अन्यथा एक माह मेरे विचार से पर्याप्त है ।

१०. जो गढ़वाली व्यक्ति जिले से बाहर नौकरी करते हैं और अपने परिवार को अपने साथ रखना चाहते हैं उनकी जांच जिले से बाहर जाने समय तथा जिस स्थान में नौकर हैं वहां पहुँचकर वहां के अधिकारियों द्वारा होनी चाहिये कि अमुक व्यक्ति अपने रहने के स्थान में अपने परिवार की कितनी महिलाओं या बालिकाओं के साथ पहुँचा है ।

११. जिन स्त्रियों को वह लाया था वह वे ही हैं या कहीं चली गई, इसकी आकस्मिक जांच भी समय समय पर होती रहनी चाहिये ।

१२. अपने जिले से बाहर नौकरी करने वाला कोई भी व्यक्ति सरकार को सूचना दिये बिना अपने परिवार की महिलाओं या बालिकाओं को कहीं न भेज सके ।

१३. यदि कोई बालिकाये स्कूल की पढ़ाई पूरी कर के कालिज की पढ़ाई के लिये जिले से बाहर जा कर पढ़ना चाहें तो उन्हें उनके माता पिता अथवा रक्षकों से सभी पूछने के पश्चात् अनुमति मिलनी चाहिये ।

मुझे भरोसा है कि सरकार मेरे सुझावों को ध्यान में रखते हुये व्यवस्था बनायेगी जिससे पर्वतीय विशेषकर नारियों तथा अबोध बालिकाओं की रक्षा हो सके और इनके इस अवैध व्यापार तथा घृणित व्यवसाय को यथा शक्ति कम किया जा सके ।

6th All-India Conference on Moral & Social Hygiene

(A Summary of Proceedings)

The 6th All-India Conference on moral & Social Hygiene in India was held at Ahmedabad for three days on 31st Jan., 1st & 2nd Feb. 58. This Conference was inaugurated by H. E. the Rt. Hon'ble Sri Prakasa, the Governor of Bombay and presided over by Smt. Violet Alva, Deputy Home Minister Govt. of India.

About 150 delegates and observers from all parts of India attended. The branches of the A.M.S.H.I. at Agra, Bombay, Lucknow, Mysore, Patna, Chandigarh, Delhi, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Central Social Welfare Board, Social Welfare Department U.P., Peoples Welfare Society Hyderabad, Salvation Army, Orissa State Social Welfare Board, Kerala, State Social Welfare Board, National Council of Women in India, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Bombay Presidency Women's Council, Bombay, Trust, Kamubala Sahkariya Udyogi Vikas Mandir Ltd., Stri Rang Cheep Sankari Mandal (BARODA), Congress Mahila Samaj, Mahila Parishad, Lohana Mahila Samaj were all represented.

All the arrangements for the Conference were made by the Samasta Gujrat Samajik Sanstha Madhyastha Mandal, Shri Raojibhai Manibhai Patal was the Chairman of the Reception Committee and Smt. Pushpavati Mehta, Shri Prabhudas B. Patwari Shri Pannalal Jhavri and Smt. Udayprabha Mehta were the Secretaries. The guests were accomodated at the residence of various notable residents of Ahmedabad who had offered to play as hosts to small groups of delegates.

First day's proceedings (31.1.58)

After breakfast the delegates were registered at Vikas Griha, the venue of the Conference. The inaugural session which commenced at 3.30 p.m. was held at Premabhai Hall. The Governor Shri Sri Prakasa Ji was received by Dr. Sushila Nayar, Mr. Shakuntla Lall, Mrs. Violet Alva, Mrs. Pushpavati Mehta, Mrs. Sarladevi Sarabhai and Shri Prabhudas B. Patwari. The proceeding started with a welcome song by the students of the Andh Kanya Vidyalaya. Several messages wishing success to the Conference were received from the President Dr. Rajindra Prasad, Vice-President, S. Radhakrishnan, the Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, most of Union Ministers, Governors & Chief Ministers, Smt. Indira

Gandhi, Smt. Rameshwari Nehru and others. Shri Pannalal Jhaveri read out the messages of the President, Vice-President, Prime Minister, the Home Minister and Smt. Rameshwari Nehru and mentioned the others.

Messages were followed by an address of welcome by Shri Raojibai Manibhai Patel. The inaugural speech was delivered by His Excellency the Rt. Hon'ble Sri Prakasa, the Governor of Bombay, who was requested by Dr. Sushila Nayar the President of the Association to inaugurate the Conference.

The Hony. Gen. Secretary, Mrs. Shakuntla Lall then presented her report on the work done by the A.M.S.H.I. during the period under review and also explained the working of the programme of the A.M.S.H.I. through its Sub-Committees in Delhi and appealed for cooperation amongst Women's Organisation in the work of A.M.S.H.I. a field of common interest for all of them.

The Presidential address was then delivered by Smt. Violet Alva, the President of the 6th Conference. She gave the example of Russia, China and Czechoslovakia where the unfortunate women have been lifted up from houses of ill fame and shame to a state respectable citizenship. She quoted Gandhi ji saying "of all the evils for which man has made himself responsible, none is so degrading, so shocking or so brutal as his abuse of the better half of humanity, to me the female sex, not the weaker sex." She laid stress on the Institution of family and the role of Police and suggested that the domestic servants should be registered.

The session terminated at 5 P.M. after a vote of thanks from Shri Prabhudas B. Patwari and the singing of the National Anthem.

At 5.15 P.M. the Governor Shri Sri Prakasa ji, gave a reception to all the delegates and participant of the Conference. At night from 8-30 to 10-30 P.M. a cultural programme consisting of folk dances Bharat Netyam was presented at Premabhai Hall. The programme was presented by Mrs. Mirnalini Sarabhai and Vikas Vidyalaya and other ladies Organisations.

1st February 1958

The business session commenced at 9 A.M. All the delegates were introduced to one another. This was followed by a seminar on the present position of prostitution and programme for its elimination. The discussion was initiated by Dr. Sushila Nayar who presented the problem in a comprehensive manner and laid stress on the fact that an all out effort against prostitution as a whole was necessary and the talk of gradualism and distinction between individual prostitution and brothels gave opportunity to evil doers to escape from the clutches of law. Dr. Ratnamma Isaac, Mr. Pooran Chand Advocate from Agra, Mrs. M. Sundaram from Calcutta and Dr. Mrs. Camilla Da Costa from Bombay read their

respective papers next. It was followed by a lively discussion in which Smt. Jyotahna Shah, Mrs. M.M. Desai, Mr. M.M. Thapar, Mrs. Dutt, Mrs. Malustak, Smt. Sarlaben Sheth, Smt. Jaishriben Raji and Smt. Charuben took part.

Lunch was served after which the Resolution Drafting Committee sat to draft the resolutions. The rest of the delegates were taken out for sight seeing.

The afternoon session started at 3-30 P.M. with a paper from Smt. Pushpavati Mehta and Dr. Anklesaria on prostitution in general and how from scientific point of view woman was fitted to be a mother from attachment to one man and be the pivot of the family. Dr. Mrs. D.D. Chacko and Mrs. M.M. Desai read papers on Sex Education and Student Counselling Programme. It was followed by a discussion in which Smt. Pushpavati Mehta, Mrs. Urmillaben Shah, Parinben Narriman and Shri Gatulal Dhru took part. Dr. W. Mathur and Mr. J.P. Gupta then read papers on V.D. which was followed by a discussion. Mrs. Chacko and Mrs. Idgunj from Poona participated. The next paper on Legal Aspect of the programme of the A.M.S.H.I. was read by Mr. K. Shanker Nigam and Mr. Prabhudas B. Patwari. It was followed by a discussion in which Mr. Ramesh Chander, Mr. Dutta and Mr. J.P. Gupta took part.

Mrs. Violet Alva, the President of the Conference then wound up the days proceeding by saying that no amount of effort or money is enough until society is ready to remove the iron curtain between the fallen and respectable sisters. She said that marriage had been made an institution of mockery by some people and it was for the women to remove prostitution and the commercialisation of what could not be valued in terms of money. The girls and women run a great risk when they go to offices and face many difficulties. Men condemn the women who fall in the force of these difficulties and it is for every woman to face the challenge.

After the President's concluding remarks, a social film MAA (unmarried mother) was shown.

After the dinner, the delegates from Bombay, Kerala, Orissa, U.P. & Bihar met and discussed about the opening of new branches.

2nd February 1958

On the third and last day, in the absence of the President of the Conference Mrs. Violet Alva, Dr. Sushila Nayar requested Mrs. Prakashwati Sud, Deputy Minister Social Welfare Department, U.P. to preside. The proceeding started with reports from all the branches A.M.S.H.I. The reports were read in the following order :—

1. All-Bengal Women Union by Mrs. M. Sunderam.

2. Agra by Dr. Roshan Singh Sodhi.
3. Bombay by Dr. Mrs. Camilla Da Costa.
4. Lucknow by Mrs. Dutt
5. Mysore by Dr. Mrs. Rateamma Isaac
6. Patna by Mrs. Bhattacharya
7. Chandigarh by Mrs. Pushpa Gujral
8. Delhi by Mr. Ramesh Chander
9. Smt. Premvati Thapar representative of the Central Social Welfare Board then informed that the C.S.W.B. was opening 80 homes in big states and 330 shelters in the districts. It had sanctioned 30 homes and 90 shelters for this year.

The reports were followed by a general discussion. Mr. Keshotal Balia, Smt. Salradevi sarabhai and Smt. Premvati Thapar. Smt. Pushpavati Mehta, [Smt. Jaishri Raiji, Mrs. Sarlaben Seth, Smt. Jyotshna Shah, Mrs. Prakashwati Sud, Shri Ramesh Chander and Dr. Sushila Nayar took part in the discussion and several important points were brought out and suggestion made for better working of the Homes and Distt. Shelters.

During the course of proceeding Norris, Deputy High Commissioner U.K. also came and said a few words wishing the Conference success and stressed the significance of the difficult and fundamental problem which was to be faced in every country.

The recommendations were then taken up. The first three resolutions were moved by Dr. Sushila Nayar from the Chair and passed unanimously. The other resolutions were then up. The order of the resolution with the name of the proposer and seconder are enclosed taken There was a lively discussion on each resolution. The names participants in the discussion on each resolution are also given. Mrs. Pushpavati Mehta wanted to put forth a resolution on Illegitimate motherhood and the place of abortion in such cases. But due to lack of time she withdrew it for the next Conference.

In the end Dr. Sushila Nayar moved a resolution thanking the Reception Committee which was seconded by Mrs. Shakuntla Lall. All the resolutions were unanimously passed.

After the conclusion of the proceedings, there was a big lunch party given by the Reception Committee to all those people who had played host to the delegates. This was followed by a Press Conference by the President of the Association Dr. Sushila Nayar. A group photo of all the delegates was taken. The delegates were then taken around the town to see the famous places of Ahmedabad.

Resolutions passed at the Sixth All India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene in India

I. The Sixth Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene in India expresses its deep sense of sorrow at the untimely demise of Shrimati Hannah Sen, a Vice-President of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene and a veteran social worker. The Conference places on record its sincere appreciation of the services rendered by Mrs. Sen to A.M.S.H.I. and to the cause of women and children in general.

Proposed by Dr. Sushila Nayar, President A.M.S.H.I.

Passed unanimously.

II. The Sixth Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene places on record its deep appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru as the President of A.M.S.H.I. for the last 10 years and their gratitude for her continuing to take interest in the work of the Association as a member of its Executive Committee.

Proposed by Dr. Sushila Nayar President, A.M.S.H.I.

Passed unanimously.

III. The Sixth Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene wishes to record its sense of gratitude for the untiring services rendered by Mrs. Humayun Kabir as the Honorary General Secretary of A.M.S.H.I. for the last 10 years and its satisfaction that her services will be available to the Association as one of its Vice-Presidents.

Proposed by Dr. Sushila Nayar President, A.M.S.H.I.

Passed unanimously.

IV. (a) The Sixth Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene thanks the Parliament and the Union Government for passing the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956 (Act. No. 104 of 1956), and urges the Govt. of India to take all steps for its early and simultaneous implementation throughout India,

(b) This Conference urges the State Governments to formulate rules and regulations and to set up the necessary machinery for the immediate implementation of this Act.

(c) This Conference urges the Union and State Governments to constitute immediately special and independent police cadres with special training in social work, rescue and vigilance work, with a majority of women police for the effective implementation of the Act, and to appoint non-official advisory committees of Social workers whose advice should be followed by the special police officials on all questions of general importance relating to this Act.

(d) This Conference urges the Union and State Governments to constitute separate courts, with women magistrates as far as possible, to deal with all cases arising out of the application of this Act.

(e) This Conference urges the Union and State Governments to appoint panels of social workers to assist the magistrates in dealing with cases arising out of this Act.

Proposed by Shri Prabhudas B. Patwari

Seconded by Smt. Hemlata, discurrred by Mrs. M. Sunderam.

Passed unanimously.

V. The Sixth Conference on Moral & Social Hygiene appeals to all women's organizations in the country to co-operate with the A.M.S.H.I. and chalk out a co-ordinated programme for the suppression of Immoral Traffic in women and children and the eradication of prostitution.

Proposed by Smt. Sarladevi Sarabhai

Seconded by Mrs. M. Sundaram.

Passed unanimously.

VI. The Sixth Conference on Moral & Social Hygiene urges its branches and the affiliated organisations to take up the work of student counselling in all earnestness.

Proposed by Mrs. M.M. Desai.

Seconded by Mrs. Leela P. Menon

Passed unanimously.

VII. The Sixth Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene urges the State Governments and the Local bodies to make venereal diseases notifiable and to open V.D. control clinics at all health centres and other suitable places, with trained social workers to help the doctors in tracing and treating victims of venereal diseases in a confidential manner.

Proposed by Dr. Ratnamma Isaac.

Seconded by Dr. Camilla Da Costa

Passed unanimously.

VIII. 1. The Conference urges the Central Social Welfare Board to provide each reception centre and home with :

- (a) Clinics for Venereal diseases :**
- (b) gainful occupation which should facilitate normal and early rehabilitation of the inmates ; and**
- (c) arrangement for children below the age of 6, in the Home or Shelter itself, and for older children in other local institutions, and the financial liability should be borne by the budget of the Home/Shelter for at least the period for which the mother is in the charge of the Home.**

Proposed by Smt. Jaishri Rai Ji

Seconded by Smt. Bina Dey

Passed unanimously.

- 2. The Conference draws the attention of the Central Social Welfare Board to the unsatisfactory condition of women, single or with dependents, of low income group and requests the C.S.W.B. to take up the question of reserving a certain percentage of houses built for low-income group in the Second Five-Year Plan.**

Proposed by Smt. Premvati Thapar

Seconded by Smt. Pushpavati Mehta

Passed unanimously

IX. The Sixth Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene places on record its deep gratitude to the citizens and social workers of Ahmedabad in general and the reception committee and office bearers and staff of Vikas Griha and Bharat Sewak Samaj in particular for the excellent arrangements made for the Conference and the care and hospitality extended to the delegates from all over India.

Proposed by Dr. Sushila Nayar

Seconded by Mrs. Shakuntla Lall

Passed unanimously.

Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India

26th Annual Report

Introductions :

This report of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India covers the period 1st April 1955 to 31st March, 1956

The normal activities of the Association were carried on inspite of financial and other difficulties. The appointment of the Advisory Committee on Moral and Social Hygiene by the Central Social Welfare Board brought strength and confidence in the workers as the A.M.S.H.I. during the 28 years of its life had been fighting single handed for its ideals. The Committee travelled extensively and helped to carry forward the message and work of the A.M.S.H.I. into remote corners of the country. Its recommendations have already started influencing the Government policy with regard to the solution of many of the problem of moral and social hygiene. During the year the Hony. Genl. Scretary mostly remained busy with the work of this Committee.

The 5th all-India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene held at Jaipur in January 56 was a great success. The Presidential address delivered by Smt. Durgabai Deshmukh was most encouraging and the A.M.S.H.I. envisaged bright prospects.

Meetings : Six meetings of the Executive Committee were held during the period under review : on 21st April, 1st August 18th October, 15th December in 1955 and 6th February and 29th March in 1956. The attendance at these meetings was encouraging and the members took keen interest in the progress of the work of the A.M.S.H.I.

Financial Position : The A.M.S.H.I. has been seriously handicapped in its work on account of financial difficulty.

The Association began its activities on 1st April 1955 with a balance of Rs. 1920-10-1 in the general fund and a sum of Rs. 5,370-15-6 as balance from the grant-in-aid for 1953-54. We received no grant-in-aid for the period 1st April 1954 to 30th 1955 and therefore had to continue our activities from the balance of the grant-in-aid for 1953-54 (the 2nd instalment of which was received in March 1955) and the subscription and donations from the public.

The Central Social Welfare Board sanctioned a grant-in-aid of Rs. 13,000/- for the period 1st July 1955 to 31st March 1956 and released it in to last week of February 1956. In the absence of reserve fund the A.M.S.H.I. found it very difficult to cover its day to day expenditure even. However the Association is deeply grateful to the Central Social Welfare Board for the above mentioned grant and our donors and members for their contributions. Without this financial assistance from the C.S.W.B, and our friends the work of the A.M.S.H.I. would have come to a stand still.

Hony. Auditors : Messrs A.F. Furguson & Co. have very kindly continued to give their generous help in auditing the accounts of the A.M,S.H.I. The Committee wishes to record with gratitude its sincerest thanks for this assistance.

In February 1956 the Hony. Genl. Secretary had to leave India on account of her daughter's illness at Oxford. She is expected to be back in July 1956. During her absence the Hony. Asstt. Secretary has been carrying on the work of the Association with the help and guidance of a senior member of the Executive Committee.

Affiliations : The A.M.S.H.I. has continued its affiliation to the International Abolitionist Federation. Geneva.

In India the A.M.S.H.I. is affiliated to the Indian Conference of Social Work and National Council of Women in India. It has also very close relations with the All India Women's Conference.

The Social Hygiene Association of Hyderabad got affiliated with the A.M,S.H.I. Its President, Dr. Hai, made a valuable contribution at the 5th all-India Conference held at Jaipur. The films on Human Reproduction System sent by the Social Hygiene Association were screened at the Conference and were much appreciated by all.

Branches : Two new branches of the Association have been started this year.

BOMBAY

The long awaited Branch in Bombay started working from October 1955. It has a strong Executive Committee under the Chairmanship of Mrs. John Mathai, Dr. Mrs. Camilla da Costa is its Hony. Genl. Secretary. Many social workers in Bombay are taking keen interest in making its programme successful.

JAIPUR

Rajasthan Branch of the A.M.S.H.I. started working just before the 5th All India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene with Mrs. Indubala Sukhadia as Chairman and Mrs. Sharda Bhargava as Hony. Genl. Secretary and Organiser. This branch has enrolled a large number of members. and has done spade work for starting rescue and rehabilitation of women and girls.

Our other branches in Bihar, Mysore, Delhi; Punjab, Agra, Meerut and Lucknow are steadily expanding their scope of activities.

BIHAR

The Bihar Branch continued its activities on a normal basis in the 1st half of the year but later its work suffered due to paucity of funds aids and a number of charges in the office-bearers.

This branch paid due attention to publicity and an article on the aims and objects and work of the A.M.S.H.I. written by its President, Miss B. Dey appeared in the 'Search-light'. The Asstt. Organising Secretary visited Arrah, Gaya and Muzzafarpur and created grounds for a survey and data collection regarding prostitution. A survey of the prevailing conditions in Patna city regarding brothels and houses of ill repute was undertaken.

The Advisory Committee on Moral and Social Hygiene on its visit to Bihar was assisted in its work. A meeting of social workers and visits to the local institutions and brothels were arranged. The President, Miss Dey, accompanied the Committee. The Committee visited 'Shilpashram', a Home which this Branch had been running and appreciated its work. This Home had to be closed as the financial aid which the Bihar Branch had been getting from Patna Municipal Corporation stopped after the transfer of its Chief Administrator, Mr. Mukherjee, who was a staunch supporter of our cause. Appeals to Education Department, Industrial and Social Welfare Board and the Mayor also did not help. The inmates were sent to their relatives and a few were permanently rehabilitated. Two of the inmates got employed as teachers in an Industrial Training School. The Office bearers of this Branch being keenly interested in the welfare of women and children have continued their efforts in spite of all these difficulties and we hope that their labour will not go in vain and this Branch will again gain strength in the near future.

MYSORE

The Mysore Branch is the oldest of all the Branches of the A.M.S.H.I. It celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 1953. It has been running a Home 'Abhaya Ashram and Orphanage' for the rescued women and children and during the last 20½ years 1,265 women, girls and

children passed through this Home. So far medical treatment for V. D. and other diseases was being arranged in the Government Hospital but now this Branch has decided to have its own Nursing Staff and to give medical aid to the inmates in the Ashram. They have approached the Health Department for a grant for this purpose,

During the period 1-1-55 to 31-8-55 this Branch launched 473 cases for breach of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act, of which 468 were convicted and 5 are pending trial. A number of girls, who were carrying on prostitution in the Hotels were recovered with the help of the police. They were given shelter in the Ashram and medical aid was extended to them as most of them were suffering from V. D,

This Branch maintains an experienced and resident staff in the Ashram to look after the inmates and train them. The inmates do their own cooking, washing and other domestic work and in leisure hours gardening also. They are given training in weaving, sewing, mat-making, knitting, dyeing, spinning and printing of cloth in addition to Rs. 3 Baby craft is also taught and the inmates have brought up many motherless children. The handicrafts made by the inmates have a good market in Mysore.

In addition to its work for the victims of immoral traffic this Branch has also taken up other welfare activities. It has opened a Milk Centre where pregnant women and children are given milk and medically examined once a week. It has also opened a Nursery School for the children in the Ashram (illegitimate children whose mothers have left them) and other children in the locality and have started a Children's Club also.

The Mysore Branch will soon have a building of its own. With the generous contribution of Rs. 15,000/- from the Government and donations they have already built the front Administrative Block which for the present will house the Nursery School, Milk Centre, a Creche and the office.

DELHI

The Delhi Branch of the A.M.S.H.I. known as Nari Raksha Samiti was started in 1949. During the period 1949-55 the Samiti recovered 630 girls from the brothels and the hands of the traffickers and rehabilitated 597. The remaining 33 girls were handed over to the Delhi State Government, when it took over the administration of Nari Niketan—a Home which the Delhi Branch had been running upto 16th January 1955. After handing over of the Nari Niketan the Samiti continued rescue work and recovered 23 girls, but concentrated much on publicity, the organisation of its work and data collection.

The Samiti carries on its work through the Sub-Committees known as Central Zonal Committee, Zonal Committees and Publicity Sub-Committee. Dr. Yudhvir Singh, Health

Minister, Delhi State is the President of the Central Zonal Committee. There are 30 zonal committees. The Samiti has a plan to start atleast 50 more. Each zone has its own incharge and approximately 200 persons are attached with all these zonal committees. The work of these committees is to make a survey of the places of prostitution and the persons running them and to help the unfortunate sisters in consultation with the Central Zonal Committee.

The Publicity Sub-Committee has as its members the Editors and Representatives of all the leading newspapers printed in the Capital. The work of this Committee is to acquaint the public with the work of the Nari Raksha Samiti and to create public opinion against commercialised vice.

The Samiti has now decided to organise periodical exhibitions in the different zones and to hold Conventions to impart knowledge regarding the causes and results of prostitution and to make the public aware of the dangers of V.D. and the advisability of early and complete treatment through proper channels. The 1st Convention has been fixed for Saturday the 7th April 1956. Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant will be the chief guest.

The data collected by the Samiti so far has revealed that whereas number of inmates in the brothels of Delhi has decreased, clandestine prostitution is on the increase. The Samiti has therefore decided to give impetus to its work with the help and co-operation of other welfare organisations in the Capital.

PUNJAB

The Punjab Branch of the A.M.S.H.I. was established in Chandigarh (Punjab) on 24-10-54 with Mrs. Bhimsen Sachar as President and Mrs. D. C. Lall as Hony. Genl. Secretary. They launched a campaign for collection of funds and approximately Rs. 13,500/- were collected as donations and membership subscriptions, the major portion of which was spent towards the organisation of the 4th all-India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene.

In February 1955 this branch requisitioned the services of Smt. Lilavati Sialkoti, a Social Worker attached to Nari Raksha Samiti to take over the charge of a Home which it proposed to run in Jullundur for recovered women and girls. Smt. Lilavati was relieved and she is now running a Home with the help of a small staff in Jullundur. The Punjab Branch has Sub-Branches in all the districts of Punjab but due to financial difficulty, they have for the present decided to confine their activities to Jullundur only.

U. P.

AGRA

The Agra Branch has considerably strengthened its position during the course of this year. Its Sub-Committees—Legal, Rescue Home, Family Counselling, Survey and

Publicity are fairly active. The Legal Sub-Committee approached the U. P. Government and the District authorities for enforcement of all the sections of the U. P. Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act. It helped in the recovery of 30 minor girls from the brothels who had to be released on bail for want of a rescue home. This Committee has drawn a comprehensive scheme for starting a Rescue Home in Agra and have submitted a memorandum on the subject to the U.P. Government. Due to the efforts of this Committee the Red Light Area of Agra was declared a prohibited area by the Agra Municipal Board; though no action was taken to enforce prohibition. The Administrator, Agra Board agreed to open a Moral and Social Hygiene Department in the Board and has submitted a scheme to the U. P. Government.

The Survey Sub-Committee of this Branch collected valuable data regarding the number of prostitutes, their age groups, economic position etc., and submitted a memorandum on its basis to the Advisory Committee on Moral and Social Hygiene. The Family Counselling Sub-Committee has done the spade work for starting a Family Counselling Centre, where free advice on family planning would be given. The Publicity Sub-committee has received generous support of the local and mofussal press.

Our Lucknow and Meerut branches are not still well established due to several reasons. Contribution by conducting a survey of the conditions of life for women engaged in prostitution in the city of Lucknow and the Meerut Branch organised a seminar and an Exhibition last year. Now that Mrs. K. Dutt, Field Consultant, Lucknow Branch has been relieved of her duties as Secretary of the Advisory Committee on Moral and Social Hygiene, we hope that she will recognise the Lucknow Branch. Efforts are also being made to push the work of Meerut Branch.

The A.M.S.H.I. has continued her contact with the Ashoka Ashram, Kalsi, Distt. Dehradun, the most important function of which is to root out the evil of prostitution from the people of Tehrigarhwal and Kinnar Pradesh. Social customs combined with economic distress lead these simple folk into the snares of traffickers and large number of women are brought to the cities to fill the ranks of brothels. The Ashoka Ashram has adopted both a preventive and constructive programme of work for the solution of this difficult problem.

ACTIVITIES :

Education : The A.M.S.H.I. has made a substantial contribution in this field during this year. At the request of the Ministry of Education the Education Sub-Committee of the A. M. S. H. I. deputed some of its members to prepare an outline for instruction in Moral and Social Hygiene as envisaged in the Memorandum submitted to the Ministry in 1954. The Committee discussed in detail the contents of the syllabus and submitted it to the Ministry of Education for examination in May 1955. We were informed that the same

had been circulated to the State Governments for their opinion. The Ministry has again been requested to let us know the comments of the State Governments at their earliest convenience.

At the recommendation of the Education Sub-Committee the subject 'Importance of Imparting Sex Education to the Youth' was included in the programme for the 5th all-India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene. In spite of the fact that this topic was for the first time discussed at an open platform the delegates took an active part in the discussions. Dr. D.D. Chacko, Mrs. Raja Ram and Dr. Hai from Hyderabad contributed thoughtful and well considered papers. Films on human reproduction system were screened and the audience showed great interest in the subject.

Student Counselling Programme : The A.M.H.S.I. was in a position to start Student Counselling programme this year as the Central Social Welfare Board sanctioned a sum of Rs. 3,000/- for the purpose. 16 lectures were delivered in the different colleges of Delhi by Dr. D. D. Chacko, Dr. Mrs. Raja Ram and Mr. Eliot Chand. The lectures were made interesting with the help of models and charts. There was good response from the students who asked for books on Sex Education to have a detailed information on the subject. The Education Sub-Committee therefore requested Dr. D.D. Chacko and Dr. Mrs. Raja Ram to write small books with illustrations for Teachers and Students separately. The 'Hand books on Sex Education' are now ready for circulation. The A.M.S.H.I. is grateful to Dr. Chacko and Dr. Mrs. Raja Ram for preparing the script for the above manuals within a short period of a month only, and for foregoing the cost of the script as the amount earmarked for the purpose had to be paid to the printers.

Legislation : The Legislation Sub-Committee of the A.M.S.H.I. went through the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Bill as introduced in Parliament by the Home Minister in 1954, and felt that a number of amendments were still required. It therefore decided to have an open discussion on the Bill at the 5th all-India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene. This topic was therefore included in the Conference programme and Mr. V. V. Shastri, Officer on Special duty Planning Commission, Mr. Bipin Behari Lall, Advocate and Mr. J.P. Gupta, Chief Probation Officer, Delhi State were requested to write papers. Mr. Gupta could not submit his paper, Mr. Shastri and Mr. Bipin Behari Lall wrote well thought papers and gave valuable suggestions. They took active part in the discussion at the Conference.

The 5th all-India Conference decided to urge upon the Central Government to expedite the passage of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Bill pending before Parliament and authorised the Central Executive Committee to prepare a note based

on the suggestions of the delegates and submit it to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The delegates were requested to send their suggestions to the Central Office. The Legislation Sub-Committee with Mrs. Hannah Sen in the Chair discussed in detail the suggestions made by the delegates and requested Mr. V.V. Shastri (who was co-opted as a member of the Legislation Sub-Committee) to draw a note on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee for submission to the Ministry of Home affairs. Mr. Shastri took great pains in preparing the note and the same was submitted to the Home Ministry. The Committee is grateful to Mr. Shastri for his help and cooperation.

HEALTH

The Executive Committee of the A.M.S.H.I. at its meeting held on 3rd August 1955, showed great concern over the increasing incidence of V. D. in the country, and requested the Health Sub-Committee to take steps to combat V. D. The Sub Committee found that the patients do not want to attend V. D. Clinics owing to shame and fear of social ostracism. The member felt that Confidential V. D. treatment was essential as it gave the patient a sense of anonymity and protection from public prejudice. The Committee decided to make arrangement of V. D. patients.

The Health Sub-Committee also felt it essential to make the public aware of the dangers of V.D. and the advisability of early and complete treatment through proper channels. It decided to put posters on V. D. in and around public wash rooms etc. to issue small pamphlets giving information regarding the causes and after effects of V. D. The West Bengal Government was approached to send copies of the two films on the prevention of this vice and the resulting diseases, which the Hony. Gen. Secretary had seen. These films if found suitable by the Health Sub-Committee, would be dubbed in Hindi.

Arrangements for a series of talks on V.D. were made with the All India Radio and Dr. B. S. Baswani and Dr. Mrs. M. B. Kagal were requested to give a talk on V.D.

The Association's efforts to start a Socio-Medical Centre have not borne fruit so far. A handsome amount was earmarked for the purpose by the Delhi Municipal Committee and the A.M.S.H.I. decided to meet the salary of the Medical Social Worker from the funds of the Association, but the Centre could not be started due to the non-availability of suitable premises. Dr. B. S. Baswani, Convener Health Sub-Committee is however continuing his efforts towards the starting of such a Centre.

The Delhi Branch of the A.M.S.H.I. has chalked down a programme for organising Exhibition on the subject in the different localities of Delhi to educate public on the causes

and results of V.D. Posters depicting the various stages of this disease were shown at the 5th all-India Conference also.

The slides showing the causes and results of prostitution issued by the A.M.S.H.I. are being shown in all the cinema houses of Delhi.

TOURS :

The Hony. Gen. Secretary as member of the Advisory Committee on Moral and Social Hygiene appointed by the Central Social Welfare Board travelled extensively.

In January 1956 she went to Patna to preside over the Annual General Meeting of the Bihar Branch. Her presence there helped in bringing strength and confidence to the workers who were totally dejected on account of the closure of the Rescue Home there.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Hony. General Secretary, was unable to carry out various planned programmes such as opening of new branches, strengthening and expanding the existing ones etc.

CONFERENCE

As in previous years this year too the A.M.S.H.I. organized all-India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene at Jaipur. The organisation of such a conference in the Different States of the Union has helped a lot to arouse public consciousness towards the dangers of the evil of prostitution and traffic in women and children and inviting the attention of the Government towards its responsibilities. The appointment of the Advisory Committee on Moral and Social Hygiene by the Central Social Board was the direct outcome of a resolution passed at the 4th All-India Conference held at Chandigarh in 1954.

The 5th All-India Conference on Moral and Social Hygiene held at Jaipur in January 1956 had a good representation, lively discussions took place and a number of useful resolutions were passed. A summary of its proceedings is enclosed.

Association for Moral and

Summarised Receipts and Payments Account for the

RECEIPTS				RS.	AS-	PS.	RS.	AS.	PS.
<i>General Fund :</i>									
To balance on 1st April 1955 ;									
With State Bank of India ...				Rs.	812	5 10			
Cash & stamps in hand ...				Rs.	36	5 3	848	12	1
1.	Life membership fee	...	...				800	0	0
2.	Annual Subscriptions	...	...				645	4	0
3.	Composite subscriptions for 3 years	...	...				30	0	0
4.	Affiliation fee	...	...				50	0	0
5.	Delegates & Observers fee	...	...				540	0	0
6.	Associate Membership fee	...	...				2	0	0
6.	Donations	...	...				1,135	0	0
8.	Token Grants from Madras & Mysore Governments	...	...				630	0	0
9.	Share of collection from branches	...	...				98	0	0
10.	Recovery of advance of previous year from Provident Fund Account	...	...				100	0	0
11.	Miscellaneous Receipts	...	...				208	5	0
To amount recovered from Provident Fund Account ...									1,000 0 0
To recovery of advance for 5th conference initial expenditure									500 0 0
<i>Grant-in-aid from Central Social Welfare Board :</i>									
To balance on 1st January' 55 ;							2,127	15	0
1.	To 2nd instalment of grant for 1953-54 received in March 1955	...	...				5,000	0	0
2.	To Grant-in-aid for the period 1st July' 55 to 31st March 1955	...	...				13,000	0	0
									20,127 15 6
									26,685 4 7

New Delhi, 11th May 1956.

Social Hygiene in India

Period 1st January 1955 to 31st March, 1956.

PAYMENTS			RS.	AS.	PS.	RS.	AS.	PS.
By Expenses :								
1. Salary & allowances	...	...	1,226	4	0			
2. Association's contribution to staff provident fund in respect of peon only.	...	...	48	0	0			
3. Conveyance allowance to Hony. Asstt. Secy.	...	...	700	0	0			
4. Stationery & Printing	...	...	352	13	3			
5. Postage	...	...	56	13	0			
6. Office Rent	...	...	715	14	0			
7. Telephone charges	...	...	343	15	0			
8. Miscellaneous Express	...	...	239	9	6	3,683	4	9
By Amount Advanced to Provident Fund Account						1,000	0	0
By Donation to International Abolitionist Federation, Geneva						500	0	0
By Advance for 5th Conference Initial Expenditure...						500	0	0
By Balance :						5,683	4	9
With State Bank of India	...	...	837	13	7			
Cash in hand	...	...	36	2	9	874	0	4
By Amount Expended from Grant-in-aid from Central Social Welfare Board :						6,557	5	1
1. Salaries & allowances to organisers (including contribution to Provident Fund.)	...	...	8,580	12	0			
2. Publications & other educational material	...	...	442	1	0			
3. Conference Expenses (Publishing [of reports, papers and other expenses)	...	...	2,571	12	3			
4. Students' Counselling programme including initial capital expenditure	...	...	2,063	10	3			
5. Travelling expenses	...	...	233	12	0	13,891	15	6
Balance on 31st March 1956 with State Bank of India						6,236	0	0
						26,685	4	7

Auditor's Report
Audited and Found Correct
(Sd.) A.F. Ferguson & Co.
Chartered Accountants.

Association for Moral & Social Hygiene in India

27th ANNUAL REPORT

(1956-57)

During March this year the Association sustained a very serious loss in the sudden death of Smt. Hannah Sen, Vice-President of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India and one of the most outstanding and valued workers for the cause of protection of women and children from commercialised vice and all other kinds of exploitation. Our sincere condolences to Dr. Sen and the bereaved family, may her soul rest in peace.

Introduction : During the period under review the normal activities of the Association were carried through in spite of financial and other difficulties. The activities of the Education Sub-Committee and the Fund Raising Sub-Committee were particularly commendable. The efforts of the A.M.S.H I. in the rescue and rehabilitation of the victims of immoral traffic are no longer isolated because the Central Social Welfare Board has been coming to its aid wherever possible to open model Homes for the victims of social vice. The plans for two such Homes have been finalised by our Branches in Bombay and Delhi and one has already been opened in Rajasthan. Our Bihar Branch has sent the plans and budget for a Home for 50 girls to the Central Social Welfare Board for a new Home in Patna

The introduction by the Central Social Welfare Board of a course of inservice training of nine months for workers in the field of moral and social hygiene in the Madras school of Social work is going to satisfy a long felt need for trained social workers in this area. A batch of 19 trainees has already finished their course and a second batch is now ready to be trained.

FINANCIAL POSITION : The Association began the years with an opening balance of Rs. 874/-/4 in the General Fund and Rs. 6,236/- in the Grant-in-aid account being the unspent balance from the Grant-in-aid for 1953-54. The Central Social Welfare Board helped by allowing its utilisation first upto the 30th September 1956 and then upto 31st December 1956. This amount was however not sufficient to cover the total expenditure on the approved heads during the period 1st April 1956 to 31st December 1956 and we had therefore requested the Central Social Welfare Board to sanction the Grant-in-aid for the 2nd plan period w.e.f. 1st October 1956, but the Board could not accept Association's request because a subsequent

grant cannot operate during the period of utilization of an earlier grant. A grant-in-aid of Rs. 50,000/- for the period 1st January 1957 to 31st March 1961 was therefore sanctioned.

The A.M.S.H.I. had to face great financial difficulty in meeting the general expenditure and the excess on the heads approved by the Central Social Welfare Board. The Hony. Treasurer, however came to the rescue and helped by lending a sum of Rs. 2,000/-. To pay back this amount and to cover the day to day expenditure it was decided to launch a campaign to raise funds for the A.M.S.H.I. A Fund Raising Sub-Committee was formed which organised a Charity Film Show in February and a Meena Bazar in March 1957. The Net income from the charity film show was Rs. 651/- and the income from the Meena Bazar is anticipated at Rs. 3,600/-.

AUDITORS : M/S A.F. Ferguson & Co. have been kindly continued to help us in auditing the accounts. The Committee records its gratitude and thanks for this assistance.

AFFILIATIONS : Affiliations with the Indian Conference of Social Work and the international Abolitionist Federation have continued to function with mutual benefit on either side.

Dr. Mrs. Freda Mukherjee who has taken an active and valuable part in the deliberations of many of our all India Conferences represented the A.M.S.H.I. at the 20th International Abolitionist Conference held at Frankfurt on Maine in October last year.

The Hony. Genl. Secretary of the A.M.S.H.I. attended the 8th International Conference of Social Work held at Munich as a delegate from India. Her report is appended in the Appendix.

Activities :

FUND RAISING : The Fund Raising Sub-Committee appointed by the Executive of the A.M.S.H.I. has done good work during the year for raising fund for the Association. A charity Film Show of "Do Bigha Zamin" was held at the Novelty Cinema in February. Dr. Yudhvir Singh very kindly inaugurated the show by explaining the aims and ideas and activities of the A.M.S.H.I. to the assembled audience. The Film and the Cinema hall had both been given free. Our grateful thanks are due to M/S Goodwill Pictures and the Proprietor of the Novelty Cinema.

A Meena Bazar and Variety Entertainment were held at the Chelmsford Club grounds in March. A Souvenir programme was published in this connection with messages of goodwill from our Chief Patron, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the President of India, Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru, the Prime Minister, Shri Govind Ballabh Pant the Home Minister, Rajkumari Amrit-

kaur the then Health Minister, Smt. Rameshwari Nehru, Smt. Kamladevi Chattopadhyay, Smt. Durgabai Deshmukh, Chairman, Central Social Welfare Board, Smt. Indira Gandhi and others. The Meena Bazar would have been a great success but unfortunately there was rain and thunderstorm throughout that evening making it necessary to postpone the function next day. This spoiled the show to a great extent but still about Rs. 3,600/- were collected. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to the authorities of the Chelmsford Club and to Mr. Cornelius, Genl Secretary, Mr. Paul and Mr. Seth of the Y.M.C.A., to Mrs. Holland of the American Women's Club, Mrs. Dixit, Hony. Secy. of the N.C.W.I., Mrs. Walkins of the Common Wealth Women's Club Mrs. Ram Lal and Mrs. Virmani of the Delhi Women's Council, Mrs. Malhan, Mrs. Bhandari, Mrs. Rathur, Mrs. Ahluwalia, Dr. Mrs. Khanna, Mrs. Naunihal Singh, Mrs. Guha, Mrs. Hani Das Gupta and many other social workers who worked hard to make the evening a success. We also remember gratefully the business organisations which gave presents as well as advertisements for the Souvenir.

EDUCATION : The Education Sub-Committee of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India has been successful this year in carrying out an important part of its projected programme. With the financial aid from the Central Social Welfare Board and the allotment of a room in the Arts Faculty by the Delhi University it was in a position to give practical shape to its long awaited Student Counselling Programme. A Student Counselling Centre was started in the Delhi University and a series of six lectures on Sex Education were organised in the following colleges of Delhi for Senior students only :

1. Indraprastha College
2. Lady Irwin College
3. St. Stephens College
4. Gwyer Hall
5. Miranda House

The services of experienced social workers and doctors were secured to deliver the lectures and the following aspects of Sex Education were covered :

Lecture No. 1 & 2	Physiology of the Human Body Reproduction, Heredity and Anatomy.
„ „ 3	Family Planning
„ „ 4	Diseases of the Reproductive system
„ „ 5	Psychology of Sex and its proper use.
„ „ 6	Marriage and the Family.

The Lectures were illustrated with the help of charts models and other visual aids. There was an alert and interesting response from the students. They were encouraged to ask

questions which were often thought provoking and even difficult, which showed that they had given a good deal of thought to these questions.

The lecturers included Dr. Mrs. Raja Ram, Dr. Mrs. Chacko, Dr. Puri, Mr. Nana-vati and Mr. Mathur of the Delhi School of Social Work. They have given reports of their impressions.

Encouraged by the ready response to the lectures among the senior students, the education Sub-Committee has now decided to organise lectures for the students of junior classes in the colleges and the senior classes of the Higher Secondary Schools.

The ordinary book shops of Delhi as of all other towns in the country today are flooded with cheap and trash literature on Sex (Mostly of American origin), which gives some indication of the amount of unwholesome curiosity for Sex knowledge among the literate youth in our country.

To counteract this unbalanced and preponderating Sex curiosity it is necessary that the normal desires for sex knowledge among young people should be met by giving them free access to decently written balanced and sensible books on the subject. For this reason books, pamphlets, charts etc. have been purchased for the library in the Student Counselling Centre and the students have an easy access there. The services of the counsellors are available to them on week days at certain definite hours of the day. Since the literature available in the ready market is more undesirable than otherwise it has been decided to publish more suitable books as well as to have a well stocked library of wholesome books on Sex in the Student Counselling Centre.

Dr. A.N. Basu, Principal, Central Institute of Education, who is also a member of the Education Sub-Committee has offered to make a film strip on Sex Hygiene. Dr. Chacko and Mrs. Raja Ram have been requested to supply him with the necessary material.

The work in this direction has so far been mostly on an honorary basis, but to have effective and sustained work there must be a whole-time trained and experienced person attached to the Centre. In the Budget estimate for the 2nd plan period we have made a provision of Rs. 1,500/- per year for the Student Counselling Programme, which would hardly be sufficient to meet the honorarium of Rs. 15/- per lecture to lecturers and to publish and purchase more literature on the subject. We however hope that the Delhi University authorities will come to our rescue by contributing towards the salary of the counsellors as counselling and guidance of the students is very necessary for the right type of education.

**A Report of the Seminar on Counselling Among Students Organised by the Education
Sub-Committee of the A.M.S.H.I.**

List of the persons who attended this Seminar.

1. Indraprastha College	Miss S. Bhatt Smt. Snehlata Srivastva
2. Lady Sri Ram College	Miss Sundermohini Luthra Miss S. Jain
3. Miranda House	Smt. S. Shergil Miss Maragaret Chatterji
4. Lady Irwin College	Miss A. Samson Smt. S. Gauri
5. Deshbandhu Gupta College	Mr. R.K. Dewan Mr. R.P. Budhiraja
6. Central institute of Education	Mr. E.A. Chand Miss Chari
7. Delhi Polytechnic	Mr. M.R. Gupta Mr. S.P. Chandola
8. St. Stephens College	Mrs. E.S. Ghuman Mr. R.I. Shankland
9. Delhi College	Mr. M.K. Haldar Mr. A. Chatterji
10. Kirorimal College	Mr. P. Suri Miss Pahwa

Association for Moral & Social Hygiene in India

Realizing that many students are hampered in their studies and in their personal relationships by problems and conflicts in which the friendship and advice of a sympathetic and experienced older person would be of real help, the Education Sub-Committee of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India, in consultation with the Principals of the colleges of Delhi University, decided to hold a Seminar on Counselling Among Students. The sessions were held in the Student Counselling Centre, Room No. 1 in the Arts Faculty Building of the University, on the afternoons of Jan. 22, 23, 28 and 29, 1957. Two members of staff, chosen by their Principals from each institution, were the participants, and the leaders were the members of the Education Sub-Committee fortified with the Experienced help of Dr. Robbins of the Delhi School of Social Work.

The first discussion opened with a consideration of the various types of problems facing the modern student. Some felt that these were primarily of an academic or economic nature, and hence could not be dealt with except by the Principal of each College. However, as more information was gathered from the participants, it became evident that quite a few students were hampered by difficulties of adjustment to new values in college and in city life, that they also had conflicts between their old dependence and their new independence, and difficulties in finding their status with their fellow students. Adjustments to heterosexual relationships, especially in co-educational institutions, were also problems. The Choice of vocation involved many in conflicts and difficulties.

From the questions the students asked during the various series of lectures on Social Hygiene given by the doctor-psychologist team as in Miranda House, Indraprastha College, Lady Irwin College, Gwyer Hall and St. Stephens College, it became evident that students were eager to learn factual truths and to know by what standard they should govern their behaviour. Premarital and marital relationships between men and women took priority. The subject of promiscuity was always brought up in the men's groups, and in the women's groups most of the "evils" visible among the unmarried women staff members were blamed on the all-inclusive term "frustration" due to their single state. Both groups showed concern with the effect of delayed marriage on family life, and with other factors which were changing the basic pattern of Indian arranged marriage. Birth control, masturbation and homosexuality, and other personal sex habits and hygiene were also topics of inquiry.

As the Seminar discussions proceeded, two or three main trends emerged. First of all, there seemed to be among both students and staff of our colleges considerable confusion as to what values are basic in life. Neither home training nor college education offered clear-cut aims or reliable procedure for living. The upbringing of boys and girls varied widely, based on the idea that "girls must be looked after ; boys can do whatever they like." Sowing of wild oats by the boys was taken for granted. Among the young men themselves there was the custom of seeking certain girls to date with but of marrying the "purdah" girls who had not been seen in public places with men. Their tendency to marry girls not their college contemporaries but rather of a group younger than themselves also worked a real hardship on the girls.

On ideas for future work, it was agreed that it would be beneficial if a counselling committee were established in each college, with at least two teachers "on duty" one of whom should be a woman if the institution had girl students. This committee could act as a liason between the students and the staff, the principal, and the university counselling service. The consequence of opinion was that students have many problems but that until they themselves are aware of their needs, any offer of advice might be more harmful than helpful. However, as teachers became aware of the difficulties certain students were facing, they should encourage them to recognise that they have problems which they were meeting ineffectively, and show them that there are ways of working them out. Students needing help could either come directly to the committee member or be referred by the principal. Situations requiring more specific or skilled advice than the counsellors could give should be referred to the counselling Room at the University or to other experienced persons. Obviously confidences must be respected in every situation : student problems should not become staff room jokes.

Through the Counselling Service Centre, suitable material on guidance, vocational help and the like could be circulated to the various college counselling committees. Whenever films encouraging healthy living and high standards of behaviour were available, they should be shown in each college. Every one thought that students would at any time attend a free film show. If such films were not already in existence, the Education Sub-Committee might make it their duty to get some produced.

The Problem of providing more wholesome social contacts between the men and women students (and staff members) brought forward several suggestions. Social service programmes, the arrangement of village sports days, work camps, gatherings for group singing, picnics, artistic programmes, international evenings, and the intercollegiate academic societies were proposed. The time did not yet seem ripe for establishing a university "Community Centre" but two of the women's colleges thought it might be feasible to have "open house" once a month to which gentlemen friends could be individually invited and at which parlour games might be played.

The lack of supervision and of provision of ordinary comforts in some of the men's hostels was brought up as a factor in students maladjustment, and also the difficulty of bringing the many day scholars in each institution into the scheme of things.

It was suggested that there should be closer contacts between the principals and the parents of students, and that there could well be meetings at which the principals and the staff would discuss with the parents, the general problems met with in the institution, and their solutions. It was also suggested that a folder briefly outlining the facilities of the Counselling Service, both in each college and at the University, be prepared which would inform the students of what help they could get where. This pamphlet could also incorporate briefly the aims of a college education, answering the question which many students may ask "I am in college, but what for ?", especially since a college degree no longer gives the assurance of finding a job. There might also well be orientation courses for new students.

Since many of the problems raised during the seminar seemed to go back to the home training of the child, it was felt that further seminars could well be held on this topic with both teachers and parents attending. Another proposition was a seminar on marriage maladjustments. Finally the group decided that what was most urgent was a joint discussion on the basic personal and social values that we should stress in our teaching and in our counselling. For instance, a respect for the integrity of the personality of other people would do much to cut down the vogue to taking so glibly of promiscuity. Mr. Mathur kindly offered to write a paper on values as a basis for such a seminar.

It was agreed that the staff of this seminar on Counselling should prepare a report to go to each principal and to each participant, and that each participant should send a report back to the Education Sub-Committee and to his principal. Then a meeting of the Principals should again be held at which the Findings of the Seminar would be discussed and future plans be jointly laid.

The findings of the Seminar are in the process of being implemented.

Legislation : The A.M.S.H.I. can legitimately take credit for the enactment into law of the new Central Model Bill for the suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls. The source of this legislation was the two bills originally framed and submitted to the Legal Department by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene. It took a long and protracted course before it was finally decided by Central Home Ministry to introduce it as a government measure. At one time the A.M.S.H.I. had to marshal the united assistance of all the women members, of Parliament to make the Government wake up to the necessity for passing this new Central bill into law to control exploitation of women and children and trafficking.

BRANCHES

MYSORE

This branch of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India was founded in the Year 1929 and has been getting continuous support from the Government officials, Social workers and the police. It was started in a rented building and now it has a building of its own. The strength of the Ashram which it has been running for rescued women and girls has increased from 7 in 1935 to 70 during the period under review. The inmates are given lesson in 3 R's and trained in Needlework, knitting, embroidery and in weaving towels, bed sheets, hand bags etc. They do their own cooking, washing, and other domestic work and in leisure hours gardening. They do a lot of spinning. The industrial department has provided the Ashram with 12 charkhas and instructors. Baby craft is also taught to them. They are taken out for recreation periodically.

In addition to the Ashram for the victims of immoral traffic it has been running an Orphanage, Creche, a Community Centre, Nursery School, Children's Club and a Gymnasium for Children. It has also a Nursery section and milk centre provides milk for the unfortunate infants, expectant and nursing mothers from the nearby slums.

During the period of 12½ years over 1,389 women and girls and orphans have passed through the Ashram. During the period 1.1.56 to 31.12.56 124 women were admitted to the Home and 56 children to the Nursery School.

During Dussehra Exhibition the handicrafts made by the inmates were exhibited for sale and there was a good response from the public.

During Deepavali the Hony. Secy., and other lady members did propaganda work among the public and collected some money and clothes for the inmates. Shakespearean players helped by giving a show in aid of the Branch.

The Branch received a substantial grant from the Mysore Government, Indian Red Cross Society, Central Social Welfare Board and handsome donations from Shri Naicker and Dr. Rao. It has a bright future.

DELHI

The Delhi branch of the A.M.S.H.I. has been doing valuable work since 1950. Its activities fall under the following heads :

1. Rescue and allied activities.
2. Checking of sale and circulation of obscene literature.
3. Publicity and propapanda against prostitution and traffic in women.

1. **RESCUE AND REHABILITATION :** During seven years of its existence Nari Raksha Samiti rescued more than 600 girls from Brothels and from the clutches of unscrupulous people, and successfully rehabilitated them. In 1955-56 it dealt with 90 cases comprising of girls from brothels, Clandestine prostitutes, girls in moral danger, cases of broken homes and unhappy marriages, complaints against goondas etc. Its Scheme for a model Rescue Home in Delhi has been accepted by the Home Ministry and Central Social Welfare Board. Home will start functioning within a few months.

2. **CHECKING OF SALE AND CIRCULATION OF OBSCENE LITERATURE :** The Samiti has been taking active part in checking the sale and circulation of obscene literature. Assistance to the police was given in organising raids and more than 700 books were seized. The culprits were sentence from 2 to 9 months.

3. **PUBLICITY AND PROPAGANDA ;** To creat public opinion against prostitution the Samiti has been following an active programme of publicity and propaganda. An Annual Convention was organised on 7th April 1956, which was inaugurated by Pandit Pant, the Home Minister, and a general meeting was presided over by Shri B.N. Datar, Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs. There was a good attendance at the Convention and the general meeting and a number of important people took active part in the deliberations. Meetings of social workers were also organised in Subzimandi, Sadarbazar and Patelnagar zones. On an average 80 members attended these meetings.

V.D. PROPAGANDA : To check the growing incidence of V.D. in Delhi, the Samiti has chalked out a programme for combating the same by educating the public regarding causes and after effects of V.D. and by arranging for their confidential and proper treatment. A Scheme has been submitted to the Central Office and if it is approved and the funds asked for sanctioned, steps in this direction will be taken in the near future.

AGRA

The Agra Branch has been fairly active during the period under review. As a result of the continuous efforts of its legal Sub-Committee the State Government passed orders for the implementation of the Municipal Bye-laws No. 3044/XXII-20(31), which prohibit prostitution in certain areas of the city. 987 cases were prosecuted of which 756 were convicted. The U.P. Childrens' Act has also been enforced. A sum of Rs. 15/- lakhs has been sanctioned by the U.P. Government for the protection of women and children from exploitation. A Remand Home, a Child Guidance Clinic and a Juvenile Court will soon be established at Agra. The Branch has not however so far succeeded in getting all the sections of the U.P. Suppression of immoral Traffic Act extended to Agra.

The Municipal Board, Agra has approved the Scheme for the opening of a V.D. Clinic, submitted by the Health Sub-Committee. It will be financed by the Board, the social workers for follow up will be provided by the Branch.

A Family Counselling Centre has also been started to bring reconcilliation among frustrated couples.

PUBLICITY AND PROPAGANDA : The Branch gave due importance to publicity and propaganda. A drama "Sex and Society" was staged, which depicted the aims and object of the A.M.S.H.I. It was attended by over 1000 people. Lectures on the different aspects of social work by the prominent persons were also arranged.

The Govt. of U.P. has appointed Dr. Roshan Singh Sodhi and Shri T.H. Quadri as Moral advisers in the district and Central jails of Agra. The Branch is also represented on the Ward Samaj Kalyan Samities, Social Welfare Co-ordination Committee formed by the U.P Government and the Crime Prevention Committee Agra.

BOMBAY

This State Branch of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India which was founded on the 1st Nov. 1955 with a provisional Committee, held its first meeting of the elected Management Committee on 8th June 1956. The Constitution was passed at a General Body Meeting held earlier on the same day.

It has the following membership :

Life Members.....4.

Ordinary Members.....57.

Affiliated Societies.....21.

Meetings : During the year the Executive Committee met 8 times, the Management Committee 4 times and the General Body twice.

Resignations : In January 1957 Mrs. John Matthai who had been President of the State Branch since its inception, resigned as she was leaving Bombay, and Mrs. Gulestan Billimoria, senior Vice-President, resigned from her office as she was appointed Sherriff of Bombay, but she continues to be a member of the Management Committee.

Financial Position : Although the Bank balance is negligible there are hopes of generous donations forthcoming. The Association is grateful for a donation of Rs. 500/- from Charity Commissioner, and of Rs. 100/- from the Presidency Magistrate Court

Activities : The Collection of Data Committee visited the Kamatipura area three times and had personal interviews with a number of prostitutes and eunuchs. Based on the information the Research Committee draw up a questionnaire which was tested in the same area. A Research scheme for the "Survey of the Socio economic conditions of the prostitutes of the Bombay city. "Involving an expenditure of Rs. 20,000/- was submitted to the Research Programmes Committee of the Planning Commission of the Government of India on March 5th 1957. The Research Programme Plan have been drawn up for an After-care Institution, a suitable site has been located, valuation reports by Govt. recognised Architect obtained and negotiations are going on with the vendors and the donors.

Meanwhile, case work has been done on a small scale and girls and women rescued with the co-ordination of the affiliated societies, namely : Bombay Vigilance Association,

St. Catherine's Home and Shraddhanand Ashram and with the help of the Vigilance branch of the Bombay Police.

Distinguished Visitor : Mrs. Rameshwari Nehru, President of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India, visited Bombay on the 31st August 1956. This Association arranged for a press conference and two days later a public meeting to which were invited all the members of the Association and prominent social workers of Bombay.

Acknowledgement : This Association is grateful to its past President Mrs. John Mathai for her valuable and selfless services during the difficult period of the formation of the Bombay State Branch. As a Life Member she continues to take interest in the welfare of the Association.

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BIHAR

The Bihar Branch of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene was formed in 1951 with the object of eradicating the commercial vice carried on within the State. A general body was formed to take up the work of general survey of immoral traffic in women and to establish a "HOME" giving shelter to the rescued women.

The Association did satisfactory work for a few years after which owing to several adverse factors there was a setback in the working and the "HOME" also had to be closed.

Early in the year 1956 however after a visit from Mrs. Kabir the Hony. Genl. Secretary to Patna the Executive Committee reorganised on their new Secy. and the work started again. The new Committee appointed a paid organising Secretary and tried to give publicity to the aims, and objects of the Association and also to organise Sub-Branches through out the state. The committee decided to take up the following programme of work during the year 1956-57 :—

- (a) To re-organise the Association in Bihar.
- (b) To form District Units in various parts of the state.
- (c) To re-start the Rescue Home at Patna.
- (d) To make a survey of the existing Homes for women and children in Bihar.

(a) According to this programme of work 56 new members were enrolled during the year. Frequent meetings were held to popularise the aims and objects of the Association, out of which one General meeting was addressed by Mr. Humayun Kabir, the Hony. Genl. Secretary of the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India.

Small folder containing the aims and objects of the Association and the programme of work was printed and distributed. The result was encouraging. We are getting good response from our own members as well as from outsiders.

(b) The Assistant Organising Secretary visited several places and made contacts. Arrah, Gaya and Bihar Shariff are the places where the preliminaries for having a branch have been done and a provisional list of members also is ready. In absence of any rule in the Bye-Laws about the formation of Branch committee the work could not be completed. A sub-

committee consisting of Shri Jeewan Datta, Smt, K.N. Begam and Shri D.N. Thakur has been appointed to frame rules for the formation of Branch committees.

(c) The Executive Committee in its meeting held on the 22nd March, 1957 resolved to re-start the "HOME" for rescued women. But in a meeting held on the 6th April, 1957 at Raj Bhawan presided by the Governor of Bihar and Chief Patron of the Association it was resolved that :—

The Governing Body need not at present take upon itself the responsibility of running a Home. It should help and encourage the existing "HOME" in their work and insist upon their proper running.

Some of the members of their own, however, may register themselves into a body and start a Home, with financial help from the State Social Welfare Board which will very likely be forthcoming.

In pursuance of the resolution a group of members of the Association have registered themselves into a separate Body and start a "HOME" known as Nari Kalyan Mandir. The Association is giving all possible help to this "HOME".

(d) A survey of six Homes was made during the year. The Committee intends to prepare a detailed statement about the running condition of all the existing "HOMES" within the state, when the survey work is complete. A sub-committee consisting of Mrs. S. Bhattacharya, Mrs. Aziza Immam and Shri S.B. Pathak has been appointed to visit the Homes within the state to find out their difficulties as well as to get an idea about the running condition of such homes. It has also been decided that rules be framed for running a "HOME" and attempt be made to get it passed by the legislature so that no Home should be recognised and given aid unless it fulfils the given conditions and abides by the rules.

Miss Sarala Arora, student of the Madras School of Social Work from Madras came to Patna and asked for help in visiting the Home and getting other information. The Association gave her necessary help and took steps against one of the Homes which was visited by her and found running in a very unsatisfactory manner.

A brief Report on impressions of the 8th International Conference of Social Work held at Munich, August 5th to 10th 1956.

BY

The Honorary General Secretary

I had the good fortune to represent the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India at the 8th International Conference of Social Work held at Munich, West Germany from August 5th to the 10th of Aug. 1956. It was a huge Conference comprising of nearly 3,000 delegates from all over the world. Some of the delegations were very large. The U.S. delegation alone consisted of 800 delegates. From India there were about 35 delegates led by Smt. Hansa Mehta, the President of the Indian Conference of Social Work.

Munich is the grand old city of Bavaria which is the most beautiful part of Germany. It fell under heavy bombardment during the last war but most of it has been built up again. The whole of this huge Conference was held in the Aufstellung Park or Exhibition grounds where they have ready made accommodation for all such Conferences. The inaugural function was held in the Dethlefsen Museum which is one of the grandest museums in the world and its main hall has seating accommodation for more than 3,000 people. The ceremony was one of the most impressive, I have ever seen. The huge dais of the hall was not occupied by the office bearers of the Conference but the Minchen Philharmonie Orchestra. The creations of great musical composers are the most outstanding gift of Germany to the world and since Germany was celebrating the 200th birth anniversary of Mozart this year it was most fitting that the inauguration of this Conference should begin and end with music from that immortal composer. He Blencher, the Reich Deputy Chancellor delivered the inaugural address.

The main theme for the Conference was Industrialisation and its influence on life in all its phases. New situations and problems were created from this impact to meet which social workers too had to be prepared in a more specialised manner. There were four Commissions and twenty Discussion groups so that the delegates could have as fair chance as possible of making individual contribution to the discussions. Group No. 10 dealt with Alcoholism and prostitution. From the evidence of the delegates present it was apparent that industrialization had led to a higher standard of living and greater amenities

in all walks of life. There was provision also for education for all in all countries of the West. Drinking is a common social custom in those countries. No one thinks anything of drinking until and unless one gets drunk and loses self control. Cases of alcoholic people who get sick with drink and still go on drinking are far less on the whole than they used to be. The ever vigilant social workers are there these days to look after anyone who strays from normal behaviour.

The case of prostitution was much more complex than that of the drink evil. Industrialisation in the Capitalistic form of Society had brought leisure, affluence and wealth to certain classes and they could buy their pleasures as they desired. There was no poverty as we know it and there were opportunities for full employment also but the lure of sudden riches or of an easy life without having to work hard for a living bring many unwary women under its clutches. Besides social conditions in Europe are not quite normal yet. The stress and strain of the last two great wars in Europe have played havoc in the lives of countless men and women. They have suffered so much that pleasures of the moment have become more important than things of more enduring value. Prostitution and alcoholism do influence one another but not to the extent people sometimes imagine. Some trafficking in young girls and women still goes on from Latin Europe to Northern Africa and middle and near East.

The discussions in the groups and the Commissions were much hampered due to the language difficulty. In the plenary sessions there was arrangement for simultaneous translations but in the groups the reporter often acted also as the translator. Three languages were allowed, English, German and French. If a delegate spoke in French her speech had to be translated in English and German for the benefit of English and German speaking delegates before another speaker could take up the thread of the discussion. This naturally made the pace of discussion very slow and often the meaning of the speaker got lost or muddled up through the process of too many translations. Then the chairman perhaps had to come to the rescue to explain matters. The main value of such a Conference is the personal friendships and wide contacts it provides for future work.

**Account for the Year Ending
31st December 1956**

ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL &

(Summarised receipts and payments account for the

R E C E I P T S		Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
General Fund :							
To balance on 1st April 1956 :							
With State Bank of India	...	837	13	7			
Cash in hand	...	36	2	9	874	0	4
1. Life membership fee	...						Nil
2. Annual Subscriptions	...				220	0	0
3. Composite subscription for 3 years	...						Nil
4. Affiliation fee	...				10	0	0
5. Associate membership fee	...				2	0	0
6. Share of collection from branches	...				14	12	0
7. Miscellaneous	...				21	1	3
8. Donation	...				997	8	3
BY ADVANCE FROM THE HONY. TREASURER, SARDAR MOHAN SINGH	...				1,000	0	0
Carried forward ...					3,139	5	10

SOCIAL HYGIENE IN INDIA

period 1st April 1956 to 31st December 1956)

P A Y M E N T S		Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
By Expenses :							
1. Salary and allowances	...	693	0	0			
2. Association's contribution to staff provident fund in respect of peon only	...	27	0	0			
3. Conveyance allowance to Hony. Asstt. Secretary	...	900	0	0			
4. Stationery and printing	...	111	7	6			
5. Postage	...	40	7	9			
6. Miscellaneous	...	55	10	0			
7. Telephone charges	...	185	8	0			
8. BY AMOUNT ADVANCED TO GRANT-IN-AID ACCOUNT	...	472	5	9			
9. Office Rent	...	461	13	0			
10. ADVANCE TOWARDS THE SALARY OF THE PEON ATTACHED WITH THE STUDENTS COUNSELLING CENTRE	...	22	4	0	2,965	8	0
By balance :	...						
With State Bank of India	...	155	1	4			
Cash in hand	...	14	12	6	169	13	10
Carried forward ...					3,139	5	10

ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL &

(Summarised receipts and payments account for the

R E C E I P T S	Rs. As. P.	Rs. As. P.
General Fund :		
Brought forward ...		3,139 5 10
GRANT-IN-AID FROM CENTRAL SOCIAL WEL- FARE BOARD ...		
To balance on 1st April 1956 ...	6,236 0 0	6,236 0 0
TO AMOUNT ADVANCED FROM GENERAL FUND...		472 5 9
TOTAL ...		9,847 11 7

period 1st April 1956 to 31st December 1956)

Sd. Mrs. Humayun Kabir
Hony. General Secretary.

DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS

TO THE

6th All India Conference on Moral & Social Hygiene in India

AHMEDABAD, 31st JANUARY, 1958, 1st & 2nd FEBRUARY, 1958.

S.No.	N A M E	ADDRESS	Delegate or Observer	Institution Represented
BOMBAY				
1.	Smt. Tarabai M. Prem Chand	Madhkunj, 7, Narayan Dabholkar Rd., Malabar Hill, Bombay-6.	Delegate	Bombay Presidency Womens Council, Bombay.
2.	Smt. Sarladevi Sarabhai	The Retreat, Shahibag, P.O. Ahmedabad.	do	National Council of Women in India.
3.	Mrs. Sarlaben Sheth	Snega Sadan, 114, Churchgate Reclamation, Bombay.	do	A.M.S.H. in Bombay.
4.	Dr. Mrs. Camilla Da Costa	37, Garden Road, Bombay-1.	do	do
5.	Mrs. Indira Mazumdar	Roxana, Queen's Rd., Bombay.	do	do
6.	Mrs. Kusum D. Maluste	Bank House, Backbay Reclamation, Bombay-1.	do	do
7.	Miss Perin Nariman		do	do
8.	Dr. Miss Cocilbo		do	do
9.	Miss Sulochna Shirsath	The Salvation Army, Morland Road, Bombay-8.	do	The Salvation Army.

10. Mrs. Jayshri Rajji	Arvind-Darabgaw Road, Bombay-26.	do	A.M.S.H.I. Bombay.
11. Mrs. M. M. Desai	Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Sion-Trombay, Rd. Bombay-38.	do	Tata Institute of Social Science.
12. Mrs. Indira Idgunj		do	Bombay Trust.
13. Mr. H. Desai	Archna, Lajpat Rai Rd., Bombay.	Observer	
BARODA			
14. Miss W. Goodwin	Faculty of Social Work, University of Baroda, Baroda.	Delegate	University of Baroda.
15. Miss Pinjus		Observer	do
16. Smt. Kusumben Desai	Kamubala Sahkariya Udyogi Vikas Mandir Ltd., Baroda.	Delegate	Kamubala Sahkariya Udyogi Vikas Mandir.
17. Smt. Kamleben Shah	—do—	do	do
18. Smt. Pushpaben Shah	—do—	do	do
19. Smt. Ramaben Jhaveri			Stri Rang Chhеп Sarkari Mandal, Baroda.
20. Smt. Jaivatiben Kothari	Baroda-Station Rd.	do	Baroda Women's Association.
21. Smt. Vidyaben Patel		do	do
22. Mrs. Jotshna Mazumdar	Baroda Lehipura.	do	do
23. Mrs. Maniben Patel	Baroda Shankar Tekri.	do	
24. Mrs. Sugnyahnaben Desai	Baroda Huzrat Paga.	do	
25. Mrs. Jaikirti Mehta	Baroda Lehipura	do	

26.	Mrs. Bhanu Jhaveri	Baroda.	do	
27.	Smt. Mazumdar	Baroda Lehipura.	do	B.W.A.
28.	Dr. B. Desai	State Social Welfare A. Board (Orissa) Bhubneshwar.	do	Orissa St. S.W.A.B.
29.	Mrs. Leela P. Menon	Kerala State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Trivandrum.	Delegate	Sate Social Welfare Ad- visory Board.
30.	Dr. Tilottama Desai	Vikas Griha, Kutch.	do	Vikas Griha.
31.	Mr. K. Ram Chander	The Pepole's Welfare Society Saidabad (Hyd.).	do	The Peoples Welfare Society.
32.	Mr. Pawan K. Kaundiya	do	do	do
33.	Dr. Ratnamma Issae	Wilson Gardan Extension, Bangalore.	do	A.S.M.H. Mysore
34.	Smt. Savitriben Govind Vallabh Patel	Gondal	do	
35.	Smt. Manuben	Rajkot	do	
36.	Smt. Anusuyaben Shah	Rajkot	do	
37.	Smt. Hira Lakshmi	Rajkot	do	
38.	Miss. Vimlaben Parikh	Rajkot	do	Lohana Mahila Vikas.
39.	Mrs. Dr. Jotshna Shah	Special Officer Rajkot Division Social Welfare Department, Bombay State.	do	Social Welfare Dept.
40.	Smt. Pushpa Gujral	Breath Rd., Jullundur.	do	A. M. S. H. in Punjab
41.	Miss R. Vermani	60, Majithia Rd., Amritsar.	do	Nari Niketan,

42.	Smt. Sargrikaben Metha	Ahmedabad.	do	
43.	Smt. Dhruvanben	Ahmedabad.	do	Mahila Parishad Branch.
44.	Smt. Jyotsenaben Metha	Ahmedabad.	do	do
45.	Smt. Virbalaben Nagarvadia	Ahmedabad.	do	do
46.	Smt. Yashvatiben	Ahmedabad.	do	
47.	Smt. Kusumben	Ahmedabad.	do	
48.	Sh. Ramesh Chander Shah	Ahmedabad.	do	
49.	Smt. Pushpavati Mehta	Shishu Mangal, Junagarh	do	Samasta Gujrat Samajik Sanstha, Madhyastha Mandal.
50.	Smt. Uday Preshe Mehta	Ahmedabad.	do	
51.	Smt. Sushilaben	Shishu Mangal, Junagarh.	do	
52.	Sh. Wikram Kishore	Shishu Mangal, Junagarh.	do	
53.	Smt. Narinderben	Ahmedabad.	do	Mahila Mandal, Junagarh.
54.	Smt. Gunvantiben	Ahmedabad.	do	do
55.	Smt. Amritben Pandya	Ahmedabad.	do	do
56.	Smt. Shardaben Amik	Ahmedabad.	do	Kasturba Stri, Vikas Griha.
57.	Smt. Kashubhai Valia	Ahmedabad.	do	do
58.	Smt. Saryubala R. Desai	Ahmedabad.	do	Mahila Congress, Ahmedabad
59.	Smt. Ramaben Thakore	Ahmedabad.	do	do
60.	Sh. Nandubhai A. Patel	Ahmedabad.	do	

61.	Smt. Gangaben Patel	Ishwarbhai	Ahmedabad.	do	Bhagini Sava Samai
62.	Smt. Mahalaxmi		Ahmedabad.	do	do
63.	Sh. Parasan Das Advocate	Patwari	Ahmedabad, Pritam Nagar, First Stope, Elise bridge.	do	
64.	Smt. Krishna Patwari		do	Delegale	
65.	Smt. Sarojben Parikh		do	do	
66.	Smt. Lilaben Desai		do	do	
67.	Smt. M. Lataben		do	do	Jyoti Sangh.
68.	Smt. Manoharnaben		do	do	do
69.	Smt. Charulataben Yodhadha		do	do	do
70.	Smt. Urmilaben Girdhar Lal		do	do	
71.	Smt. Kamlaben Chanderben Mehta		do	do	
72.	Smt. Kasavben Chaturbai Amin		do	do	
73.	Smt. Gangaben Jhaveri		do	do	
74.	Dr. Roshan Singh Sodhi		Chirimartolla, Agra.	do	A.M.S.H. in Agra
75.	Smt. Raj Kumari Sodhi		Chirimartolla, Agra.	do	—do—
76.	Sh. Pooran Chand Advocate		Hony. Secy., Distt. Crime Prevention Committee, Agra.	do	—do—
77.	Sh. Jawala Prasad Jatinder		Representative of the local Press, Shri Balmik Ashram, Taj Ganj, Agra.	do	—do—
78.	Mrs. S. Bhattacharya		Kadam Kaun, Patna.	do	A.M.S.H. in Patna

79. Mrs. K. Dutt	Samaj Kalyan Vibhag, Vidhan Bhawan, Lucknow.	do	U.P. Oovt. (Social Welfare Dept.)
80. Smt. Prakashwati Sud, Deputy Minister	Samaj Kalyan Vibhag, Vidhan Bhawan, Lucknow.	do	do
81. Mrs. M. Sundram	83, Rash Behari Avenue, Calcutta.	do	All-Bengal Women's Union.
82. Mrs. Surjeet Malhan	54, Queensway, New Delhi.	do	A.M.S.H. in India.
83. Mrs. Kamal Mehra	1-Maharaja Lal Lane, Civil Line-Delhi.	do	—do—
84. Mrs. Raje Mehta	3-F, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi	do	—do—
85. Dr. W. Mathur	20, Rajpur Road, Delhi.	do	Health Committee of A.M.S.H.
86. Mr. M.M. Thapar C/o	Intelligence Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi.	Observer	Ministry of Home Affairs.
87. Sh. Ramesh Chander C/o	1133, Kutch Natwan, Chandni Chowk, Delhi.	Delegate	Nari Raksha Samiti. A.M.S.H. Delhi.
88. Sh. Nand Kishore C/o	1133, Kutch Natwan, Chandni Chowk, Delhi.	do	—do—
89. Sh. K. Shanker Nigam C/o	Indian Red Cross Society Red Cross Road, New Delhi.	do	Indian Red Cross Society
90. Mrs. Agya Gujral	4B/4, Poorvi Marg, New Delhi.	do	A.M.S.H. in India.
91. Mrs. Sanyogta Chopra	6B/4, Poorvi Marg, New Delhi.	do	—do—
92. Dr. Mrs. D.D. Chacko	Provost Lodge, Gwyer Hall, Delhi University, Delhi.	do	Y.W.C.A

93. Miss MacDonald	28, Alipur Road, Delhi.	do	The Trained Nurses Association of India	Paid
94. Mr. J.P. Gupta	Children's Home, Kotlah Ferozshah, New Delhi.	do	A.M.S.H. in India.	Paid
95. Smt. Premvati Thapar	Bombay Mutual Building Parliament Street, (C.S.W.B.) New Delhi.	do	Central Social Welfare Board.	Paid
96. Dr. Sushila Nayar M.P.	19, Rajpur Road, Delhi.	do	President, A.M.S.H. in India.	
97. Mrs. Shakuntla Lall	1-Maharaja Lal Lane, Civil Line, Delhi-8.	do	Secretary, A.M.S.H. in India.	
98. Sh. Daya Ram	22-Humayun Road, New Delhi.	Staff		
99. Mr. Bansi Lall	838, Chandni Mahal, Darya Ganj Delhi	do	A.M.S.H. in India.	

6th All India Conference on Moral & Social Hygiene

Following are the names of those delegates who due to unforeseen circumstances, were Unable to attend the Conference

S. No.	N A M E	ADDRESS	Delegate or Observer	Institution Represented
1.	Sh. H. B. Narang	3, Darya Ganj, Delhi.	Delegate	A.M.S.H in India
2.	Sh. Shanti Swaroop	P. O. No. 105, New Delhi.	do	—do—
3.	Mrs. Savitri Dutt	35/40 Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi.	do	—do—
4.	Sh. M.L. Mehra	3 West, Sadar Thana Road, Delhi.	do	—do—
5.	Mrs. Monika Guha Thakurta	Lotus Court, Flat No-4, 196, Janshedji Tata Rd. Bombay.	do	—do—
6.	S. Bhupinder Singh	Prop. Simla Press, Amritsar.	do	—do—
7.	Dr. A. S. Raj	Hony. Sec. U.P. Crime Prevention Society, Lucknow.	do	U.P. Crime Prevention Society.
8.	Mrs. Santosh Kumari Dhawan, M.A.B.T.	Principal-Saghir Fatana School, Agra.	do	A.M.S.H. in Agra
9.	Mrs. Lila Nigam M.A.B.T.	Baillanganj, Agra Cantt.	do	—do—
10.	Mrs. Prem Lata Dhakrey	Raja Ki Mandi, Agra.	do	—do—
11.	Mr. J. V. Nethani	Principal Sindhi School, Agra.	do:	—do—

12.	Mr. R.P. Saxena	East India Carpet Factory, Agra.	do	—do—
13.	Mr. Ramesh Chander Aggarwal	Rajaki-Mandi, Agra.	do	—do—
14.	Mr. D. S. Dhawan M.A.B.T.	Bailen Ganj, Agra.	do	—do—
15.	Mr. R. S. Chandla	Chhipitolla, Agra.	do	—do—
16.	Maharaja Shivdon Singh	Sheoratri House, Udaipur.	do	A.M.S.H. in India
17.	Mrs. Shivdon Singh	Sheoratri House, Udaipur.	do	—do—

Account for the Year Ending
1st April 1956 to 31st December 1956
&
1st January 1957 to 31st December 1957.

ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL &

(Summarised receipts and payments account for the

R E C E I P T S	Rs.	As. P.	Rs.	As. P.
General Fund :				
To balance as on 1st April 1956 :				
With State Bank of India ...	837	13 7		
Cash in hand ...	36	2 9	874	0 4
To Income				
1. Annual Subscriptions ...	220	0 0		
2. Affiliation fee ...	10	0 0		
3. Associate membership fee ...	2	0 0		
4. Share of collections from branches ...	14	12 0		
5. Miscellaneous ...	21	1 3		
6. Donation (including Rs. 900/- from Hony. Asstt. Secy. ...	997	8 3	1,265	5 6
To other Receipts				
Advance from the Hony. Treasurer, Sardar Mohan Singh...			1,000	0 0
Grant-in-Aid from Central Social Welfare Board			3,139	5 10
To balance on 1st April 1956 ...	6,236	0 0		
To Amount advanced from General Fund ...	472	5 9	6,708	5 9
			9,847	11 7

New Delhi, 9th June 1958

SOCIAL HYGIENE IN INDIA

period 1st April 1956 to 31st December 1956)

P A Y M E N T S		Rs.	As.	P.	Rs.	As.	P.
(a) General Fund							
By Expenses :							
1. Salary and allowances	...	693	0	0			
2. Association's contribution to staff provident fund of office peon only	...	27	0	0			
3. Conveyance allowance to Hony. Asstt. Secretary	...	900	0	0			
4. Stationery and printing	...	111	7	6			
5. Postage	...	40	7	9			
6. Miscellaneous	...	55	10	0			
7. Telephone	...	185	8	0			
8. Office Rent	...	461	13	0			
9. Salary of the peon attached with the Student Counselling Centre	...	22	4	0	2,497	2	3
By Amount advanced to Grant-in-Aid Account	...				472	5	9
By balance :	..						
With State Bank of India	...	147	1	4			
Cash in hand :	...						
As per certificate	14 12 6						
Add : Receipt not accounted	8 0 0	22	12	6	169	13	10
					3,139	5	10
(b) By Amounts expended from Grant-in-Aid from Central Social Welfare Board :							
1. Salaries and allowances to organisers including reimbursements to other organisations and branches	...	4,272	3	6			
2. Provident Fund contribution for organiser	...	191	0	0			
3. Outstanding liability for 1955-56 (payment to the organiser attached with Punjab Branch)	...	1,350	0	0			
4. Students Counselling Centre including lecture honorarium to Committee Members etc.	...	638	15	0			
5. Printing charges of Annual Report	...	256	3	3	6,708	5	9
					9,847	11	7

Audited and found correct.

A. F. Ferguson & Co.

Chartered Accountants

ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL &

(Summarised receipts and payments account for the

R E C E I P T S		Rs. nP.	Rs. nP.
(a) General Fund			
To Balance on 1st January, 1957			
Cash in hand	...	22.78	
With State Bank of India	...	147.08	169.86
To Income			
1. Charity - Cinema Show (Sale of Tickets)	...	727.00	
2. Meena Bazar :			
(a) Advertisements	1,674.50		
(b) Stalls	533.95		
(c) Tickets	2,369.00		
(d) Games of Skil	581.00		
(e) Gifts	313.56	5,472.01	
3. Membership fee	...	330.50	
4. Share of collection from Branches	...	42.00	
5. Affiliation fee	...	10.00	
6. Associate Membership fee	...	2.00	6,583.51
To Other Receipts			
Advance from Sardar Mohan Singh	...	1,000.00	
Income-tax on the salary of Organiser	...	15.00	1,015.00
(b) Grant-in-Aid from Central Social Welfare Board			
To Amount received during the year	...		10,000.00
			17,768.37

New Delhi, 9th June 1958

SOCIAL HYGIENE IN INDIA

period 1st January 1957 to 31st December 1957)

P A Y M E N T S		Rs. nP.	Rs. nP.
(a) General Fund			
By Expenses			
1. Salaries and Allowances	847.00		
2. Contribution to Provident Fund Account	34.00		
3. Telephone charges	247.24		
4. Office Rent	602.01		
5. Stationery and Printing	272.91		
6. Miscellaneous	58.24		
7. Postage	115.11	2,175.51	
8. Expenditure incurred in organising Charity Cinema Show		66.69	
9. Meena Bazar :			
(a) Printing of Tickets	51.00		
(b) Miscellaneous	72.06		
(c) Souvenir	492.15		
(d) Publicity	220.00		
(e) Games of Skill	22.00		
(f) Entertainment	424.18		
(g) Illumination	372.00	1,653.39	3,895.59
By Other Payments			
Refund of advance to Sardar Mohan Singh :			
Received in 1956	...	1,000.00	
Received in 1957	...	1,000.00	2,000.00
By Balance :			
Cash in hand	...	206.77	
With State Bank of India	...	1,666.01	1,872.78
			7,768.37
(b) By Amounts expended out of the Grant-in-Aid received from the Central Social Welfare Fund			
1. Salaries and allowances to Organiser	4,685.47		
Provident Fund Contribution for Organiser	132.00	4,817.47	
2. Student Counselling	...	120.00	4,937.47
Balance	...		5,062.53
			17,768.37

Audited and found correct.

A. F. Ferguson & Co.

Chartered Accountants

मसुरी
MUSSOORIE.

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363.44

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